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Issue No 119  
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the right choice

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# COUNCILLOR BLASTS 67K 'SECRET' REPORT

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## **LIVING THE GOODS LIFE**

The Goods' Shed is the best market in Britain according to the judges at the prestigious Food and Farming awards. Stocking local fish, game and cheeses, find out why this is no ordinary place to shop. Full story on page 2.

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

A "SECRET" report on a planned football hub in Canterbury has been causing controversy at the Guildhall.

Councillor Nick Eden-Green claims consultants were paid £67,000 to write a report on the plans, which was finished in September.

Plans for the football hub were due to be sent to public consultation in the autumn.

The councillor says he has since been trying to meet the consultants and has asked repeatedly to see the report, but has not been allowed.

He further alleges that he has been told the report concludes that the most appropriate site for the football hub is Ridlands Farm on South Canterbury Road, near the hospital.

But Councillor Eden-Green said this was the only site suggested by the council.

And waiting to hear whether they will have to have sports pitches rather than farmland behind their homes is distressing residents.

Councillor Eden-Green said: "What we have is a report that remains secret for months, that has cost thousands and then merely reaches conclusions that the council requested."

"The consultants have not spoken to a single local resident or a single local councillor; in other words they have consulted nobody. Meanwhile the University of Kent has opened a new £2.7m football facility to the public."

"Just how many expensive football facilities do we need when we cannot keep the loos and museums open?"

David Ford, assistant head of culture and communications, said: "Consultant work has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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### TOP TV CLIPS



**1** Brave swimmers go for an icy dip in Dover Harbour on Boxing Day. Search 'Boxing Day' @yourkenttv.co.uk



**2** Kent Fire and Rescue Service demonstrate the aftermath of a crash. Search 'carnageddon' @yourkenttv.co.uk



**3** Julie Maddocks looks at the new housing development at Kingshill. Search 'Kingshill' @yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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CHOICE: Supply and demand helps to keep a range of produce available at the Goods Shed

# Still coming up with the goods

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

EIGHT years after opening, The Goods Shed in Canterbury has won a prestigious BBC food and farming award – but what makes it so special?

With famed playwright David Hare commissioning pink grapefruit marmalade from stallholder Patrick Williams, a Master of Wine in the building, and local pheasant and Dover sole on sale, it seems surprising the place hasn't had more recognition.

Before owner Susanna Sait bought the building in Station Road West, it was earmarked for demolition. But now the place is thriving and in November it won the BBC's national best food market award.

Mrs Sait said: "It's been a really nice, steady climb. The guys who gave us the award said what really makes it interesting is that we let the traders get on with it.

"We let economics dictate a bit and let the customer decide what stays and what goes, rather than supplement and subsidise things. It's full of eclectic characters, like a little community."

The market houses Simon's fish

counter, which sells fish from boats based around the Kent coast.

Next to that is the butchers, which sells everything from local bacon to wild rabbits and trotters, and further on is Murray's General Stores which stocks dry goods, milk, hams and ales.

Nearby is Enzo's bakery with cooks from Naples and a Master of Wine, of which there are only a few hundred in the world, selling his goods. There is also a sandwich counter which uses local bread, a cured meat stall, Tom's cheese stall which sells unpasteurised cheese such as the local Ashmore Ancient, and a vegetable cooperative which represents several local farms.

There is also Patrick's kitchen, which was nominated for the best takeaway award. He believes in good food well made, and old-fashioned, personal service. He creates such delicacies as poached pear and walnut brownies; and chicken, mushroom and tarragon pie.

But the owner will not let The Goods Shed rest on its laurels. She has plans for selling raw milk by the gallon, creating an orchard around the building and having butter-making days.

Mrs Sait said: "If you want to keep choice alive you have to vote with your pocket. This is really just to give people choice beyond supermarkets."

## Football scheme 'will have to finance itself'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

involved a re-assessment of site options; given the sensitivity of this particular issue 20 potential sites have been analysed.

"Consideration has also been given to the potential mix of facilities to be provided and an analysis of the financial implications.

"The final scheme will, at the very least, need to be self-financing. It is this element the consultant is currently working through.

"Public consultation will take place in advance of any decision.

"It is important we are consulting on an option that is deliverable."

## yourcanterbury NEWS IN BRIEF

### Help officers identify seafront sex attacker

A SERIOUS sexual assault on a teenage girl on Herne Bay seafront has prompted a police appeal for witnesses.

The teenager, who had been out for New Year's Eve, was assaulted by a man in a bus shelter in the King's Hall area at about 10.30pm.

He is white, in his late 20s, slim and with blond hair and blue eyes. He was wearing a black and blue striped short-sleeved top.

Det Insp Trevor Fleming said: "I am appealing to anyone who was in the area, particularly between 9.30pm and 11pm."

Contact officers on 01303 289600, or call the free and confidential Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111.

### Arson suspected after bungalow is wrecked

ARSONISTS are thought to be responsible for a fire at a bungalow in Littlebourne on Sunday.

Three fire engines were called to the empty house in Stodmarsh Road at 11.40pm. Police closed the road while firefighters tackled the blaze, which had spread from the ground floor to the roof space.

By the time the flames were out just before 2pm, more than half the building had been destroyed.

Crime scene investigators have been to the scene.

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# Dented pride as city's gay bar shuts down

## Residents' objections and lack of support to blame, say activists

THE imminent closure of a gay bar has led to renewed criticism from Pride in Canterbury that the city is "not gay enough".

CO2, on the corner of King Street and St Alphege Lane, will close as soon as the owners can sell the lease.

The bar has been plagued with planning objections and complaints from an association of local homeowners since before it opened and one of the bar's owners blames this and a lack of community support for the bar's closure.

Darren Bister, co-owner of the pub, said: "We are closing because it is just not very successful at the moment. It is a waste of time, a waste of our work and a waste of money. We've not had the support from the community we thought we'd get, so it's time to shut the doors. We've had enough."

"Too much damage has been done here; it's a lost cause. We'll probably not be opening a bar in Canterbury again, although we'll be keeping our bars in other towns open."

Gay rights group Pride in Canterbury blamed council apathy for the venue's closure.

Andrew Brettel, on behalf of the group,

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

said: "Until the council sends out a clear message that it's all right for the gay community to be out and proud in the city, businesses and ventures that strive to serve and build up that community will find it difficult to succeed. The city's many homophobes must be celebrating."

But Mr Bister does not blame the city council and does not think the venue being gay was a factor.

He said: "Anything here would get complaints, no matter what venue it is. The locals don't want anything here full stop."

"I'm gutted, but there you go. We're the only gay bar, but people don't want us here, including the gay community who are not supporting us at all."

"We put a lot of work and money into making a place where people can feel comfortable and be themselves."

A council official said: "While it's sad when any business closes, as the licensing authority we have to be strictly impartial and cannot favour either the business or local residents. We have offered to work with the owners of CO2 to try and find alternative premises within the city."



**SHUTTING DOWN:** CO2's owners will close the city's only openly gay bar as soon as a buyer can be found for the lease

## Unwelcome guest on Christmas Eve

A BURGLAR who took Christmas presents from a house in Herne Bay is being sought by police.

The crime was discovered when a concerned neighbour saw lights on at the home in Cliff Drive when the owner was visiting family for the night.

The front door had been smashed open. A box of presents, three silver and diamond watches, a gold wedding band and brass, silver and gold bracelets were missing.

Police want to trace a man who knocked on the door of a nearby house to ask directions at 6pm on Christmas Eve, the night the presents were stolen.

The man, who aroused neighbours' suspicions, is white, about 5ft 5in, of slim build and with short dark hair.

Anyone with any information can talk to officers on 01227 762055, or via the free and confidential Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111.

## Marlowe floodlight thrown into Stour

A FLOODLIGHT used for the Marlowe Arena tent was pushed into the River Stour by vandals.

The nine-metre-high outdoor light, used to illuminate the pedestrian entrance to the temporary theatre at Kingsmead in Canterbury, was damaged and had to be sent back to the manufacturer.

A replacement was in use almost immediately. Police believe it was pushed over sometime after 11pm on Sunday, December 27, after it was switched off for the night, as the sandbags used to steady it were also in the river.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Canterbury police on 01227 762055.

## Pub till raider pays price of incompetence

AN INEPT thief took an empty till from a pub in Canterbury last Wednesday.

Police were called to the Canterbury Tales when a man was seen leaving the premises with a till under his arm.

The burglar was chased by officers after he was traced using CCTV.

Police caught up with the man on the Stour footpath where he attempted escape after throwing the till into the river.

A 19-year-old from Dover was arrested on suspicion of theft and is being questioned in custody. The till was recovered from the river.

## Pipe down, please

NOISY burglars alerted police while trying to steal copper pipes from an empty house.

Banging could be heard from outside the home in Rowlands Drive, Herne Bay, and police found piping piled up in a room when they arrived just after 8pm on Monday, December 28.

The damage had caused water to leak into the house and the supply had to be turned off.

Two men arrested at the scene have been released on bail.

## Mary's clean pair of heels give hospices a fine running total

THE Pilgrims Hospice has received a Christmas boost from a charitable runner.

Mary Watson, a 49-year-old who started running two years ago, raised more than £650 for the charity after completing the Great Yorkshire Run and the Great South Run.

The nurse, who works at the Brabourne Care Centre in Ashford, completed the two races within two months.

Mrs Watson said: "I was always the last one to be picked for teams at school, so I am surprised at how much I have taken to running and how I found the races easier than expected."

"It gave me such a buzz to do this. I have enjoyed every second."

"In 2010 I will be doing the same runs again and in 2011 am hoping to get a place on the Great North Run."

Mrs Watson chose to complete the races for the Pilgrims Hospice because a friend's wife had been cared for in the Thanet home.



Mrs Watson ran the 10km Great Yorkshire run in one hour and nine minutes, with her daughter. She completed the 16km Great South Run in just under two hours, beating half the other 21,000 runners.

Susan Booth, head of fundraising and marketing at the hospices, said: "We are delighted Mary has raised so much money for us."

"More than 80p in every pound raised goes directly on patient care, so she will have made a great difference to patients and their families."

Anyone interested in completing a challenge to raise money for Pilgrims Hospices can visit the website [www.pilgrimshospice.org.uk](http://www.pilgrimshospice.org.uk) for fundraising ideas.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

## Eurostar 'needs to work to rebuild confidence'

A FORMER British Airways brand consultant says that Eurostar needs to work hard to regain the public's confidence after the train breakdowns in the cold weather.

Simon Middleton said: "All companies will, at one time or another, face a product crisis and let its customers down."

"The most important thing is how they respond. Eurostar's response was not good enough for the brand or its customers."

The chaos in the run-up to Christmas left more than 55,000 passengers stranded in France, England, Belgium and the Channel Tunnel itself.

Passenger have been asked to write to Eurostar's office in Ashford if they want to claim compensation. The address is: Traveller Care, 2nd Floor, Kent House, 81 Station Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AP or email [Traveller.Care@eurostar.co.uk](mailto:Traveller.Care@eurostar.co.uk)

## How to stay warm and safe during cold weather

KENT Fire and Rescue Service is reminding people to take a few simple safety precautions to stay safe during the winter.

With temperatures remaining low, people often turn to open fires and other heat sources to stay warm but firefighters have the following advice to prevent a blaze:

If you plan on using an open fire, make sure your chimney has been recently swept as build-ups of soot and ash can cause chimney fires.

When going to bed, householders should also make doubly certain that an open fire is either out, or pushed back into the grate and a guard used to prevent sparks hitting carpets or furnishings.

## Wildlife park can make use of Christmas waste

STAFF at a wildlife park have appealed for donations of Christmas waste for educational projects.

The Wildwood Trust, near Herne, is asking for old wrapping paper and cards for craft activities at its education centre.

Staff also want biscuit tins and clear plastic sweet boxes to use as storage for specimens and artefacts.

Education officer Laura Hester said: "We want people to donate what would normally get thrown away."

# Call to blood donors as supplies run low

■ BY MARIJKE COX

VITAL blood supplies are at risk of falling drastically low – and the NHS is calling on our readers to roll up their sleeves and help restock essential provisions.

Health experts say the drop follows the severe weather which left many people unable to get to donation sessions.

Accidents caused by icy pavements and treacherous driving conditions also meant additional supplies were used across the UK to treat casualties in A&E.

The busy Christmas period was another factor blamed for the decrease in donors.

Claire Dolling, spokesperson from NHS Blood and Transplant, said the festive season always leads to a drop in donors, but this year the problem had been even worse.

"Because Christmas fell on a Friday this year, there were fewer blood donor sessions over the two-week period; six full days and two half days instead of the usual 10 full days," she said. "It's vital that people continue to give blood – especially at this time of year as stocks traditionally take a drop."

"Christmas can be a hectic time for many.



With all the preparations and anticipation for the festive season, giving blood can fall down the 'to do list'. We are urging your readers to think of others and give blood, as it really does save lives.

"Blood stocks have to be constantly replenished, and we'd like to get more people regularly giving blood in the Kent area."

Donated blood – which is used in life-saving operations – cannot be stockpiled as the two components taken from it have short shelf lives.

Ms Dolling said: "Platelets – a clotting factor used to help treat leukaemia and cancer patients – last for just five days."

"Red cells last longer, at 35 days, and are often transfused to patients suffering from severe anaemia or severe blood loss."

"It's therefore vital that both regular and new donors come forward to give blood and ensure sufficient blood is available for patients."

Ruth Greenaway, from the National Blood Service, part of NHS Blood and Transplant, said although supplies in the county were not yet at rock bottom, the spell of severe weather had hit stocks.

"The bad weather kept people from getting to their donation sessions," she said.

"We can't stockpile blood. Red cells only have a shelf life of 35 days and platelets just a few days. People should make it their New Year's resolution to give blood – it's only once every 16 weeks."

Ms Dolling added: "Giving blood is one of most selfless acts you can do to help others."

"It takes less than an hour, is painless and you never know when you may need blood yourself."

"Appointments can be made so you're not kept waiting and many people fit it in on their way to or from work."

"If it's been on your to do list for ages and you haven't got around to it, then tick it off today."

To find out how to become a donor go to [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk) or call 0300 123 23 23.

## Fire crews rescue dog trapped for six days

A FIVE-hour rescue by firefighters got Lucky the dog out of a badger sett just in time for Christmas.

The 12-year-old Lakeland Patterdale cross had been stuck for six days before his dramatic rescue on Christmas Eve.

Lucky went missing on a walk in woodland near the William Harvey hospital in Ashford on Friday, December 18.

Owner Sue Williamson said: "We searched for two days, but had no joy. On the Wednesday we heard Lucky barking, but had to leave him until it got light when the firefighters arrived."

Alerted by the RSPCA, crews from the Ashford and Larkfield stations, and the

urban search and rescue team, used cameras and listening devices to find Lucky. Larkfield firemen cut down trees to make sure the area was safe and the crew from Ashford dug down to rescue the dog.

Larkfield station manager Colin King said: "It took about five hours but we're delighted at the successful outcome."

Lucky was taken to a vets with dehydration and a serious eye infection which needed an operation, but was home by Sunday.

Mrs Williamson said: "He has made a fantastic recovery, thanks to the firefighters."

"We can't get over how dedicated they all are and this has been a brilliant Christmas present for us."



**RESCUED:** Lucky is reunited with his owners after his six-day ordeal in a badger sett

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**PROFESSIONAL:** Firefighters lift off the roof of the car during the demonstration in Canterbury city centre

# Playing victim of car accident an eye-opener

■ BY NICK AMES

JOURNALISTS often – probably too often – have to write about car crashes and the clichés come easily to the keyboard.

“Emergency services rushed to the scene” is one, then there is “cut from the wreckage”, or “pulled to safety” before “condition is reported as comfortable/stable/critical” – which is usually the last readers hear of the victim.

A cold day in the centre of Canterbury gave me the chance to see what it is like – without the pain and grief – to be the person at the sharp end of a road accident.

The county’s emergency services wanted someone to play the part of a driver stuck behind the wheel of a crashed car while they demonstrated to the public how rescues were carried out – as well as explaining the dangers of drink driving.

The road show, which involves firefighters and paramedics, has toured the county to drive home the safety message.

After a short briefing I was wedged into the car which had been placed in Rose Square by Whitefriars Shopping Centre and a crowd of several hundred gathered round.

One firefighter carried on a commentary as the team prepared. I was in the driver’s seat and the exercise started.

A firefighter came to the window of the car and asked me how I was feeling. “Can you move at all?” he said. “Where is it hurting?”

I had been told to simulate spinal injuries so I said my back and shoulders – he told me not to nod my head and just to keep calm.

A crash helmet had been put on my head and a neck brace strapped to my torso. An oxygen mask was then put on me and a mock-up plasma bag strapped to my arm.

Another firefighter then came into the back seat: “You’re in no danger,” he reassured me. “I wouldn’t be here if you were.”

Just as I was getting used to it – and it wasn’t really claustrophobic – a microphone appeared under the mask and I heard the question “How do you feel?”

“Err, well okay really, I know I’m in good hands. I don’t feel in danger, I don’t feel trapped or shut in, I’m just relying on people who obviously know their jobs.”

A female Fire and Rescue Brigade mem-

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bers told me her job was to keep the victim calm by talking.

“The person is obviously in shock, but my job is to keep on reassuring them,” she said.

The voice behind me then said: “They are starting to cut the roof off, but sit tight, you’ll be okay.”

An icy blast of wind assured me the car was well and truly cracked open, as the wind-screen was also removed.

A stretcher was manoeuvred down the back of the seat and I was pulled on to it.

“One, two, three four pull,” said a member of the emergency crew as I was pulled on to the stretcher, strapped up, and removed from the wreck.

The whole procedure was remarkably smooth, and I never felt that I was in a problem situation. I know it’s not real and I wasn’t hurt. I could hear, mostly, and see, a bit, everything that went on.

But I admired the way the crews, firefighters and paramedics, carried out their tasks.

It must be really grim when the victim has lost a limb or is close to death.

But the professionalism they showed and their ability to communicate and reassure me convinced me there are probably no finer people in the world to be forced to rely on when your life is at stake.

yourcanterbury  
**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Steam engine to rescue

STRANDED rail passengers were given a helping hand during the cold snap – by a steam locomotive.

As heavy snow brought much of Europe’s rail network to a standstill, the Tornado steam train completed the route from London Victoria to Dover twice on Monday, December 20, carrying commuters left stranded by modern trains.

The Tornado, a Peppercorn Class A1 steam train, now operates excursion tours and took a group of enthusiasts almost 20 years to build.

It was unaffected by the icy weather and dropped passengers at various stations along the Network Rail main line before its arrival in Dover.

Mark Allatt, chairman of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, said: “We delighted that she was able to brave the arctic weather to haul two of the few trains to run in Kent.”

## Actress Joanna ‘national hero’ for Gurkha campaign

ACTRESS Joanna Lumley has been named as one of the Heroes of 2009 by The Daily Telegraph.

The paper said she “became an established national treasure when she battled for recognition for the Gurkhas.”

In salute an article stated “She has always held the regiment in deep esteem and affection – her father, Major James Lumley, served in Burma during the Second World War with the 3rd Battalion of the 6th Gurkha Rifles – and she was outraged to discover that Nepalese soldiers were denied the right to live in the UK.

“She became the figurehead for the Gurkha Justice Campaign, using her intellect and elegance to bully, belittle and badger the Government into a policy change.

“Her triumph has meant that those brave Nepalese soldiers who have fought for Britain across the globe, and who retired before 1997, will now be entitled to live here, along with their families.”

Last month the former Absolutely Fabulous star sent “a blizzard of kisses” to Kent on Sunday and its readers for supporting her campaign for the soldiers currently based in Folkestone and Maidstone.

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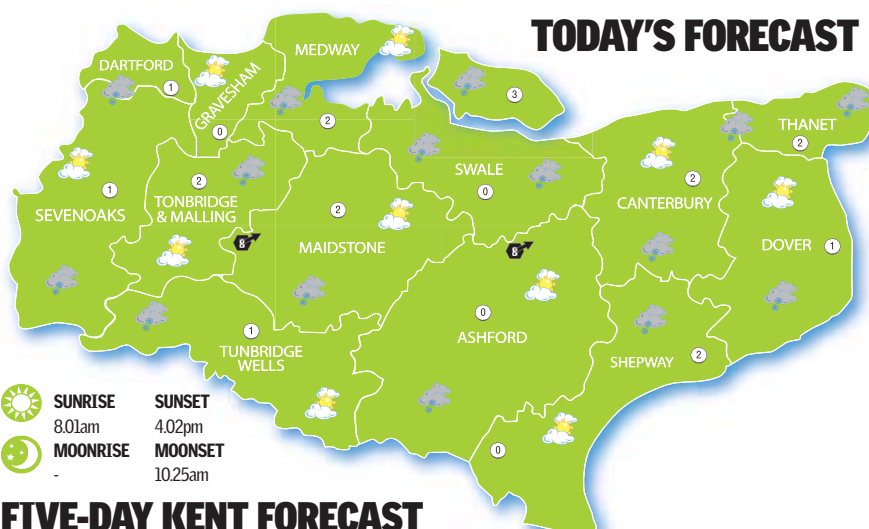
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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	7:00am	5.3m
	Sunday	8:11am	5.1m
Dover	Saturday	6:09pm	5.5m
	Sunday	6:37am	5.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	6:03pm	6.2m
	Sunday	6:35am	6.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	6:39pm	4.2m
	Sunday	7:07am	4.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	6:48am	5.2m
	Sunday	7:59am	5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:49am	4.9m
	Sunday	8:05am	4.7m

## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	1°C	Madrid	8°C
Athens	10°C	New York	-6°C
Barcelona	10°C	Paris	-3°C
Beijing	-11°C	Rome	8°C
Bombay	29°C	Sydney	22°C
Cape Town	26°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	0°C	Tokyo	6°C
Gibraltar	17°C	Vancouver	7°C
Hong Kong	21°C	Warsaw	-6°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	21°C

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	3°C	2°C	1°C	1°C	2°C	Gravesend	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	2°C
Canterbury	2°C	2°C	1°C	1°C	1°C	Maidstone	3°C	2°C	1°C	1°C	2°C
Chatham	3°C	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	Ramsgate	2°C	2°C	1°C	1°C	1°C
Dartford	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	Rochester	3°C	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C
Dover	3°C	1°C	1°C	1°C	2°C	Sevenoaks	2°C	0°C	0°C	0°C	0°C
Faversham	3°C	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	Sittingbourne	3°C	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C
Folkestone	3°C	1°C	1°C	1°C	2°C	Tonbridge	3°C	1°C	0°C	1°C	1°C
Gillingham	3°C	3°C	2°C	2°C	2°C	Tun Wells	3°C	1°C	0°C	1°C	1°C

## Men shocked at old factory

A MASSIVE electric shock left two men in hospital after they allegedly tampered with a live power cable carrying 11,000 volts.

Two men were discovered following a loud bang at the disused Hyuck building near the Thanet Way in Whitstable just before midnight on Saturday, January 2.

One of the men, a 23 year old from Canterbury, was found with facial injuries and had to be treated at the specialist burns unit at East Grinstead Hospital.

The second man, a 22 year old from Canterbury, was taken to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford with burns on his hands. Neither is in a life threatening condition.

Both men have been spoken to in hospital by police and have been bailed until January 14.

Officers are investigating a possible attempt to steal cable at the factory.

## Icy conditions are rubbish

HOUSEHOLDERS will have to keep waiting for their rubbish to be picked up because of the icy conditions.

The council has stopped its fleet of waste collection vehicles going out because of the dangerous road conditions, meaning both landfill and recyclable waste will remain on the streets.

Collections were due to be held today to replace cancelled pick-ups on Friday, but with freezing conditions forecast all week it is unclear when it will be collected.

The council has asked homeowners to leave their waste out so that it can be picked up when conditions improve.

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## QUESTION & ANSWER

### COLIN OVERALL



**Q** How is work progressing?

**A** Work on the steel frame started in December, the builders are out there and the crane is going up, so it is going fine.

It will take several weeks before you will see the proper outline because of Christmas and it will take shape in the first few weeks of the New Year.

It won't take shape until quite a few months down the road. We have got the steel frame going up for most of January. We will be putting in pre-cast floor, metal decking and roofing systems will in February, March and early April.

**Q** What have you been doing so far?

**A** We've been working on substructures; foundations where we have been creating the bases and things that hold the steel frame up, so that we can bolt the steel frame down when it comes in. Then it has a sure footing for the remainder of the project.

**Q** What will we see next on the site?

**A** The steel frame will be the main thing, and then you will see the pre-cast concrete planks for the floors and also metal decking, which is another type of flooring.

The structure itself will be very open and visible for quite a few months.

**Q** At what stage will the theatre start looking like the architectural drawing?

**A** I wouldn't expect it to really start looking like that until the middle part of next year. Once it is closed in you can start to see the form and the walls and things like that.

From a construction point of view we try to keep it open for as long as possible to get access easily in from the outside to the middle and, as you work from the middle outwards, you start to close it in.

**Q** When will it be completely finished?

**A** Autumn 2011.

**Q** How is the Marlowe being put together?

**A** Obviously you use pre-fabrication where possible because with things like the steel frame it is very easy to do that, and with the floors as well it is easy to do that.

The metal roofing that is coming in is all pre-fabricated. But once you have got the big areas, you start having the more specialist bits – what we call the flashings and cappings – that start to make it look pretty and make it watertight.

Then the windows start going in and again it is a kit of parts. They come ready-made and are assembled and put together. Ideally you want to do as much fabrication as possible

away, and then bring it to site and put it together. But there are certain elements you just can't do that with. You can do pre-fabricated foundations but, because of the nature of the city centre site, some of the equipment you would need to use is not appropriate.

The foundation system selected for this site is basically, you put a big screw in the ground and pull out a core and put foundations all the way down and put concrete in.

**Q** Archaeologists found a Roman townhouse on the site. Has that caused problems?

**A** The archaeology has been exciting, because some of the things we have found have been very unusual to Canterbury, so it has been important. It has caused some challenges. We are working with the council to finish the project as near on time as we can.

**Q** Has the bad weather caused any problems?

**A** No. The rain causes problems on certain parts of the project, but not at the moment. It just makes it unpleasant. Rain and cold can cause problems but it depends on how prolonged it is and what stage you are at.

**Q** Will the project come in on budget?

**A** Of course it will be on budget!

**Q & A**

Jenny Armstrong talks to the new Marlowe Theatre's project manager from contractor ISG Jackson about how the building is taking shape, the challenges they are facing and the timescale of the project

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# Police call to share Stack costs

## Agencies urged to take responsibility

■ BY NICK AMES

POLICE leaders are calling on other agencies to help pay the £2 million needed to run Operation Stack instead of forcing Kent's taxpayers to foot the bill.

Operation Stack is implemented to sections of the M20, should ferries from the Port of Dover or the Channel Tunnel stop running – turning the motorway into a lorry park until services to Europe resumes.

### Burden

The responsibility for Stack originally fell with Kent Police when it first ran on the A2 at Lydden in the 1980s, as the Highways Agency did not exist, but now the Kent Police Authority thinks it is time to share the burden.

Ann Barnes, Chair of the Authority, has called for a long-term solution for Stack after the bill for policing the foreign lorries during 2008/09 cost Kent taxpayers about £2million and each time takes up hundreds of hours of valuable police time.

Mrs Barnes said: "No one has taken any responsibility for Operation Stack. This is not a local problem, but a national one.

"Our officers should be in our communities



**CLOSED:** Operation Stack is enforced on parts of the M20 when cross-Channel ferry services are disrupted

and our neighbourhoods keeping people safe and doing what we pay them to do.

"I think it's shocking that police time is being spent babysitting foreign lorry drivers.

"It's grossly unfair that our police council taxpayers here in Kent have to pay for this.

But from a safety perspective we have no choice.

"Without Kent Police, Operation Stack would grind the county to a halt. The economic impact would be enormous."

Chief executive of the authority, Mark

Gilmartin, said: "We are not trying to shift the responsibility completely as that wouldn't fair at all and not want we want to do, but we need to look at other partner agencies getting involved.

"Kent Police needs to be involved as there is the safety issue, but it's not right to always use our front line resources, our officers should be in the community."

In response to the police authority's call for extra help to operate Stack, the Highways Agency says it has contributed and does not have the funds to give any more.

A Highways spokesman said: "The Highways Agency has made significant capital investment – around £10 million in the last four years – into Operation Stack including provision of the Quickchange Moveable Barrier, advance signing on approaches to junctions on the M20, CCTV, traffic officers and other associated costs."

The effect of Stack, when implemented, also hits companies financially.

The Federation of Small Businesses estimated that blockades at Calais port and the subsequent stoppage of crossings costs the UK haulage industry £1 million a day.

And with delays on deliveries and traffic problems caused by Stack, a further half a million daily is lost.

The latest implementation of Stack which took place last month follows three other occasions it has been brought in this year and 21 times last year – which includes the eight implementations for the Sea France strike between February 28 and March 15, last year.

Kent Council County's favoured option to deal with Stack is to open giant lorry parks to keep truckers of the M20 when the ports are closed.

# Hauliers slow to pay £1.5m immigrant smuggling fines

TRUCK drivers are not being punished enough for smuggling illegal immigrants from Calais into the UK.

That is the conclusion of an inspection into the work carried out by the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA).

The report was published by the agency's independent inspector John Vine.

He found that £1.5 million worth of fines were still to be collected by the agency from lorry companies whose vehicles had been found to contain illegal immigrants.

Under the law, introduced in 2000, haulage companies can be fined up to £4,000 and if they fail to pay they can have the vehicle impounded.

However, the report found that almost no

companies or drivers had been added to the agency's vehicle seizure list since September 2008.

In his report Mr Vine said: "We saw little effective leadership or accountability for the civil penalty process within the UKBA."

The inspectors blamed a lack of resources, poor management and a lack of targets that affectively allowed lorry companies to ignore the law.

### Stowaways

The number of stowaways found in trucks in France has massively increased over the last three years.

In 2007 4,241 were found by UKBA staff, this had risen to 8,058 by September 2009.

The report said that although officers on the ground in Calais tried to do their best to carry out searches they lacked the equipment and facilities to do the job.

Mr Vine said: "We found there was a shortage of basic equipment available to staff, including torches, cameras and bolt-cutters."

"The accommodation at Calais was also very limited – in terms of both the space and facilities available for staff and customers."

If lorry drivers were caught with illegal immigrants in their trucks the penalty fine system was not acting as a deterrent.

A large backlog of cases had built up meaning that the agency would resort to sending out warning letters and not issue a fine because of lack of staff.

Mr Vine said that more vehicles should be impounded by the UKBA because in most cases the fine was paid within two days.

He concluded: "We found no evidence to show that quality reviews were undertaken in relation to the civil penalty scheme, either to identify opportunities for improvement or to ensure consistent application of the scheme."

Ashford MP and Conservative spokesman on immigration Damian Green said the report was another example of the chaos in the immigration system.

A spokesman for the UKBA said that it had recovered £250,000 of fines since April; it was improving its holding facilities in Calais and speeding up its processing service.

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# Bravery of Scout trio is rewarded

THREE Scouts from across the county have received commendations for acts of bravery in emergency situations.

Andrew Hunt, 18, from Deal; Kirstie Greenslade, 17, from Thanet; and Hannah Walker, 15, from Sheppey, have been presented with awards for decisive action during three traumatic incidents last year.

All their actions helped to prevent others coming to harm.

Andrew was taking part in a Scout expedition to South Africa when an Italian fisherman got into difficulties. For his life-saving actions Andrew was awarded the Silver Cross.

The citation reads: "In recognition of his courage when he rescued a fisherman who had been swept out to sea by a rip tide and rough waves, whilst putting himself at considerable risk his actions were the result of this life-saving incident at Cape Vidal, South Africa, August 2009."

Kirstie, who is an Explorer Sea Scout with the 1st St Peters Group, used her training to rescue a man from the sea and was awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Meritorious Conduct.

■ BY NICK AMES

The citation reads: "In recognition of her prompt and appropriate action when she went to the rescue of a swimmer who was unconscious, she shouted for assistance while keeping his head above water and then helped get him to safety on June 28, 2009."

Hannah's swift action at Minster College, Sheppey, when a heating duct collapsed during a school exam, earned her the Gilt Cross.

The citation read: "In recognition of her bravery and quick thinking when she saw a ventilation duct falling from the ceiling during a school examination, she pushed a fellow pupil to safety and was injured herself as a result of her actions, but despite this offered first aid to others."

Scout officials said the trio acted out of instinct and put themselves at risk in order to save the lives of others.

Chief Scout and TV action man Bear Grylls said: "These Scouts have shown great bravery and their acts are an inspiration. Scouts train for these moments. I am so proud that when it mattered they showed great scouting spirit."



SCOUTS HONOUR: Hannah Walker (left), with Andrew Hunt and Kirstie Greenslade

## A fat lot of good that will do our feathered friends

PEOPLE are being urged not to put leftover fat from roast dinners out for the birds as it is extremely dangerous to our feathered friends.

Many believe turkey fat is as beneficial to wild birds as other fats such as lard and suet, says the RSPB. They pour it onto bird tables or mix it with seed, thinking it will give birds energy and nutrients – but the charity is warning it could kill them.

RSPB adviser Kirsi Peck said: "Using fat from roasting tins to feed to garden birds is a big no-no. Roasting tin fat will be mixed with lots of other juices which will go off very quickly and cause disease on bird tables."

### Damage

"It could also damage birds' feathers, which are important for keeping them healthy and warm. And salt added to meat can have a devastating effect of its own."

"This time of year always brings out the suggestion that it's a good idea and people want to do all they can to help wildlife, but in reality they could be killing them with kindness."

Cooked turkey fat is completely unsuitable for birds. It remains soft even when cooled, meaning it could smear on birds' feathers and ruin their water-proofing and insulating qualities. Birds need clean, dry feathers to survive the cold and a layer of grease would make this virtually impossi-

ble. The softness of turkey fat means it is impractical to make 'bird cake' mixed with seed as it will not harden enough to hold its shape.

Because the fat in roasting tins cannot be separated from other elements such as meat juices, the mixture can go rancid quickly. This forms a breeding ground for salmonella and other bacteria.

At this time of year birds are particularly prone to bacterial infections as their defences are low and energy levels depleted with the cold. Also, people add other ingredients to a joint of meat before roasting, including rubbing it with salt to crisp the skin. High levels of salt are toxic to garden birds.

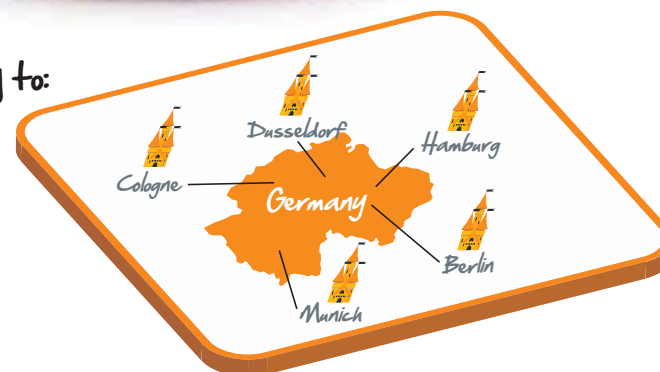
The RSPB suggests leaving out scraps which would be beneficial to birds, including cake crumbs, pastry crumbs and biscuit crumbs. Other suitable leftovers include mild grated cheese, cooked or uncooked rice, breakfast cereals, cooked potatoes and fruit.

The charity says additional feeding at this time of year can be the difference between life and death, particularly for smaller garden birds.

Ms Peck said: "Natural food will be in short supply. We always have so much food at this time of year and people love to put leftovers to good use. As long as we know which foods are suitable we could really help our birds fight the cold."



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## BREAK TIME

## A healthy success

A PRIZE has been awarded to a team from University of Kent's school of computing for their life-saving software.

Their programme to help medical practitioners diagnose kidney disease early is already being used by GPs in Kent, Medway and Greater Manchester.

The team, which also involved members from an NHS Foundation Trust, came second in the national Innovation in Renal Medicine 2009 competition run by the Journal of Renal Medicine.

The team was awarded a £2,000 prize by Professor Sir Roy Calne, a pioneer in transplant medicine.

## Honouring director

ACADEMY Award winner Thelma Schoonmaker Powell has unveiled two new murals dedicated to her husband, Kent-born film director Michael Powell.

The six-time academy award nominated editor visited Christchurch University's media department to unveil the murals and place plaques next to them. The ceremony took place in the Powell Building, named after her late husband.

## Join the film club

FILMCLUB, a scheme whereby schools can have free access to thousands of films, is having free induction sessions for teachers in Canterbury.

Any state-funded school can sign up for free training on how to set up the club.

To sign up for one of the two sessions on January 13 in the Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, visit [www.filmclub.org](http://www.filmclub.org) and click on 'I want to set up a club', or call 020 7288 4520. The meetings are at 12-2.30pm and at 4.15-6.30pm.



ENTERPRISING: Speakers Simon Askew and Rachel Fagg from Young Enterprise, with students from the Herne Bay High School and the Queen Elizabeth School, Faversham

# Enterprising students make it their business to speak up

A BUSINESSMAN gave expert advice to students who are running a company in their school.

Stephen Askew, managing partner of Canterbury firm Burns Waring, gave a seminar on public speaking at Herne Bay High School.

This will help students participating in a Young Enterprise project where pupils have the opportunity to run a real business during the school year and take part in a national competition.

In order to help make their companies more successful the business education charity has organised seminars to support pupils with

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

specific business skills.

And they had one of the best with Mr Askew, a chartered accountant who has specialised in helping businesses improve and grow for the last 12 years. He is as a key note speaker and trainer throughout the UK, and also in Europe, Malaysia and Abu Dhabi.

Bonnie Tate, a teacher at Herne Bay High, said: "It was a fantastic event which gave students a real insight into the skills they needed to speak in public. It was a very enjoyable event which students really enjoyed."

Pupils from the school described Mr Askew

as "a very energetic and motivating speaker".

Mr Askew, who has spoken to a number of schools on presentation skills, also addressed pupils from Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Faversham.

Phil Larter, who teaches at the school, said: "Students could relate to the content and should feel inspired to take these very relevant skills away with them and make progress with their company."

Young Enterprise, which organised the event, is the UK's biggest enterprise education charity. For its year-long company programme which the Kent schools are involved with, pupils have to run a company and sell a product or service for a year.

SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourcanterbury@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourcanterbury@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)

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# yourcanterburyblogger



Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Canterbury...

## Parking hogs probably leave their towels on sunbeds, too

FORGET first come, first served. Parking in my street is one for all and all for one – and their friends, family and acquaintances.

Spaces in resident parking bays are sunloungers on a holiday resort. Cars are the towels, used by their owners to reserve spaces for their nearest and dearest. Unfortunately, cars aren't so easy to pick up and chuck away when the reservation lasts all day. Forget love thy neighbour. It has become a battle between households out there.

It started when some absent-minded resident left their car in the middle of a double bay while they were on holiday for two weeks. (I wonder what their towel etiquette was like).

This eliminated a space for the rest of us – most annoying. Some residents left little notes on its windscreen, politely, and some not-so-politely, requesting the culprit considers their neighbours when parking in future. Fair

enough I suppose. However, the note-writers have now adopted this strategy and are using it to their own advantage.

They park deliberately in the middle of two-car bays, or several feet before the end of a larger bay to save spaces for the other family cars.

One household is fortunate enough to have a garage and a drive. However, they still hog a space in the public parking bay all day, in order to keep a space for one of their other three cars. All the while their drive sits empty. They employ the same tactic for visitors, of which there are many.

I know parking is a problem. My heart sinks when I pull into my jam-packed road and am forced to park on the other side of the county instead. It's inconvenient for my husband as well, who has heavy tools to transport from his van to the house.

It's irritating, but the note-writers behind this new 'game' are more infuriating. Especially when you ask them gently if they

can move their car up, so you can park in the street you also pay your permit for, and they point blank refuse! What happened to the "consideration for your neighbours" they harked on about? Three words to the hypocritical note-writers: pot, kettle and black.

It's not the council's fault, but it is ironic that the price of permits continues to increase, while the actual spaces disappear.

At present I still have my principles and refuse to participate in this selfish activity. I don't have the audacity to rob spaces from my other neighbours, who face the same dilemma. Maybe I'm soft, but I don't want to enter into this battle for the bays. I prefer to believe in the illusion that some sort of neighbourhood camaraderie and respect still exists.

Needless to say, I won't be holidaying at the same time and on the same resort as any of the note-writers. I'd probably end up sunbathing on the road outside the hotel if they had their way. Then again, maybe not. That'd be jammed full with their hire cars.

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New for 2010: Curves weight management classes will be starting this month and are free for members and non-members alike. Are you fed up with dieting? Then this is the class for you. We will help you raise your metabolism to ensure permanent results without permanent dieting.

The first class will take place on Saturday, January 16. For more details and to register, phone 01233 627299. And don't forget – we have free parking. To enter the competition, simply answer this question:

**Where is Curves of Ashford located?**

Send your entry on a postcard, along with your email address (if applicable), name, address and daytime phone number to: Curves Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is January 20, 2010.

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## TALK TIME

### STELLA MILLEN

Stella Millen of Aire Trampoline Club talks about the club's future after it's move to permanent premises in Canterbury

#### How are the new Canterbury premises helping your club?

Aire Trampoline Club has moved from a school hall in Faversham to a unit on the Wincheap Estate, Canterbury. We moved our six Olympic-size trampolines and equipment in the middle of September and started sessions on September 28. Aire Trampoline Club now has a permanent trampoline centre where we offer quality coaching within a safe environment.

#### Who can take part in trampolining?

The club's coaches are qualified to teach trampolining for people aged from four to 64. Trampolining is a good form of exercise, whether done for recreation or to enter competitions. We aim to build self confidence and a sense of achievement through a structured coaching programme which teaches teamwork and respect.

We hold sessions Monday through to Friday from 4-9.30pm and Saturday morning 9am to 12.15pm. Our maximum capacity for these sessions is 640 people.

#### What next?

We are aiming to run sessions during the day for schools, disabilities groups, mother and toddler groups and even a golden oldies session. For more information go to [www.aire.tc](http://www.aire.tc) or phone Stella on 08455 190 390.



## YOUR LETTERS



### Litter spoiling the city for everyone

It's time someone drew attention to the rubbish in the high street. There is an obvious problem with waste collection in the city, combined with the drunken activities of irresponsible revellers, and the council should make sure businesses are disposing of rubbish promptly and efficiently.

This does spoil the city for residents and tourists alike.

Sam Curton  
Canterbury

### Heartless to evict tenant from home

How could the CDS co-operatives be so heartless and mean-spirited to evict vulnerable, mentally-ill tenant, Clive Rundle from his home because he was too paranoid to let workmen inside to replace windows? (Mentally ill man evicted from his home of 16 years, YourCanterbury, December 9).

It seems such a trivial reason to deprive him of his home for more than a decade and a half.

The executive of CDS co-opera-



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tives don't seem to have even the slightest comprehension of how frightening it can be for those with serious psychological disorders to allow strangers into their private space.

As Mr Rundle has been forced

to stay temporarily with his brother, would it not be more humane for the owners of the property in question to permit Mr Rundle to return to his house once work has been completed?

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury



### Cathedral window sale a great idea

It's a very good idea to 'sell' parts of the south oculus window, and I wish the cathedral authorities the best of luck with the project.

It is vital we preserve the window and the cathedral as a whole and plans like this, and the scheme to sponsor roof tiles are exactly what needs to be done.

The cathedral is part of the history and fabric of the city, and something we all appreciate either directly or indirectly.

Name and address supplied

### Don't cut costs by cutting insurance

With shorter daylight hours, the opportunity for burglars has increased. Between April 08 and March 09, the incidence of burglary in a dwelling reached 395 in the local authority area of Canterbury, with a further 477 in other properties.

Research has shown that 47 per cent of people made a New Year's resolution to save money and, although it is tempting to cut back on costs such as insurance, by not protecting ourselves we

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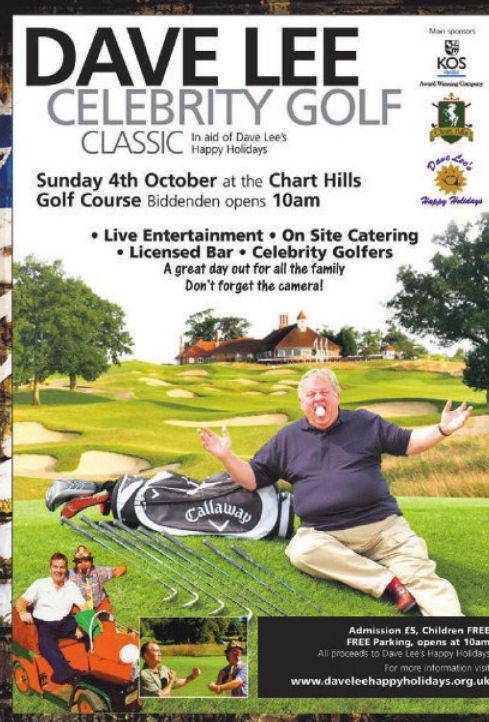
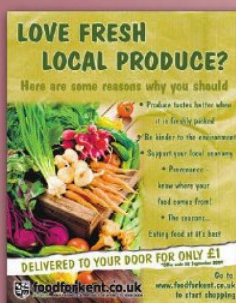
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Award Winning Company





could be leaving ourselves out of pocket.

If you would like to speak to your local Age Concern representative about this issue, call 02380 382970.

Katie



## It's up to us to cut carbon emissions

Nice to see Canterbury council is taking climate change seriously

I find it odd that the council members feel they can ignore their own party line when it comes to signing up to the 10:10 agreement, with council leader John Gilbey saying he "doesn't know a lot about it."

We obviously cannot leave it to our elected representatives to lead the way when it comes to carbon reduction; it is up to us to take steps to reduce emissions.

Simon Little, Canterbury

## We need solutions to immigration issues

Our first duty as human beings is to help others in need, if we can.

Fortunately, we have Kent Refugee Help to act on our behalf concerning asylum seekers based near Calais who are camping outside in winter.

But charity is not enough. We need more elaborate solutions to the illegal movements of people.

We need to ensure that all movements by people across borders are legal, fair and safe. We need to make sure that people are not trafficked into exploitation of any kind. And we need European countries to act together to achieve this.

But no one should under-estimate how difficult this will be to achieve, or how long it will take.

Unfortunately, there is no guarantee the Metropolitan Police unit dealing with trafficking will have its funding renewed. And the European Union policies which would lead towards common asylum and immigration policies are under-developed and under-funded.

If asylum seekers are to cease to be the scapegoats of those who refuse to see them as human beings, then our political leaders need to direct their attention and resources to the aim of

making all movements of people across borders legal, fair and safe.

Asylum seekers and stateless people justify our care, not our condemnation.

Steve Dawe, Green Party

## So many children living in poverty

Alistair Darling's promise of free school meals for more children from low-income families is good news for the 50,000 children who will be lifted out of poverty by this measure.

But this still leaves 1.4 million children living in severe poverty, whose parents struggle to put food on the table. We should be clear that Mr Darling has done little to help them.

The announced increase in child benefit amounts to just 30 pence extra per week for every eldest child. The overall government target of lifting 650,000 children out of poverty next year is nowhere near being met.

We want all the political parties in the run-up to, and after next year's election, to prioritise these forgotten children. Free school meals are welcome – but so much more needs to be done to ensure the very poorest children are not left behind.

Fergus Drake, Save the Children's director of UK programmes



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# Stage set for season

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## NEW SEASON

Various dates

Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

FROM literary heroines to the ravages of war, the new season at Trinity has an abundance of treats on stage and screen.

Celebrate the life and career of a comic legend in the acclaimed one-man show, Morecambe, in which Bob Golding plays the popular comedian in captivating style. More beloved characters are brought to the stage in *Austen's Women*, a celebration of the author's most memorable and well-observed heroines.

More great theatre is on offer with the fun-filled *Off Her Trolley*, *Animal Farm*, the thrilling *Gaslight*, Hitchcockian thriller *Séance* and *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, a darkly comic story about a middle-aged woman who finally finds love, much to her dependant mother's annoyance.

Music fans will be spoiled for choice as *Five Star Swing*, Phillip Dyson, the *Tivoli Cafe Band*, *Ancora Duo*, saxophonist Courtney Pine and many more pay visits to Tunbridge Wells.

Get ready to giggle when Jo Caulfield performs her latest show, *Jo Caulfield Won't Shut Up*, and former gossip columnist Bridget Christie has plenty of hilarious tales to relate in *My Daily Mail Hell*.

Jazz pianist Peter Gill and actor Andy Meller take the audience back into the 50s and 60s, to relive the comedy of great American satirists, Bob Newhart and Tom Lehrer.

The family entertainment programme includes *Auntie Anita*, *Suzy Sprite* and the *Chocolate Thief*, based on the popular *Suzy Sprite* stories. Other highlights include *Around the World in Eighty Days*, *Three Favourite Tales*, *Igor* and *How the Koala Learnt to Hug*.

Film buffs have the opportunity to indulge in fantastic cinema from around the world, such as *The Hurt Locker* (cert 15), a tense thriller in which bomb disposal experts attempt to stay alive in post-war Iraq. Other cinematic treats include *Glorious 39*, the award-winning *The White Ribbon*, *The September Issue*, *Cracks*, *Tulpan*, *The Cove*, *The Men Who Stare At Goats* and many more.

For full season listings pick up a brochure or visit [www.trinitytheatre.net](http://www.trinitytheatre.net). Tickets can be booked online or by calling the box office on 01892 678678.



**HIGHLIGHTS:** Clockwise from above, *Austen's Women*, comedian Jo Caulfield, and big screen thriller *The Hurt Locker*



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## DAVID O'DOHERTY

Saturday, January 30  
Gulbenkian Theatre,  
Canterbury



AWARD-WINNING comedian David O'Doherty returns to Canterbury later this month with more music-based comedy.

Described as the Ryanair James Bond, this Irish comic has won over fans with his whimsy and knack for drawing humour out of simple ditties played on cheap 80s key-boards.

Choosing his instruments for their versatility, range and ability to fit into sports bags so that he does not get charged for excess baggage on flights, O'Doherty has created a quirky act that won him the IfComedy Award at the 2008 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

He originally dreamed of becoming a jazz pianist, but says his dreams were squashed due to a lack of tal-



ent. Faced with a career as a telemarketer, O'Doherty turned to comedy. He is also an actor, keen cyclist and author, with his latest literary project being a book called 100 Facts About Pandas.

The show, which is suitable for ages 14 and above, starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £12.

Book online at [www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk) or call the box office on 01227 769075.

## EDDIE WALKER

Wednesday, January 13  
Chinney Boy, Faversham



BORN and bred in the north east of England, Eddie Walker seems to have an eternal bond to the life and landscape.

He was drawn to folk and country music as a child and played his first paid gig at the age of 18 in 1967, supporting the likes of Tiny Tim and Long John Baldry in nightclubs. Walker then appeared at the Cambridge Folk Festival, where he had seen his heroes play in the past, and went on to win or nearly win a number of songwriting and music competitions.

His 1975 song North Road was resurrected in 2000 to celebrate the 175th birthday of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, prompting a critic to rave about the moving tune that reflected the changing face of railway towns.

North Road had won the Northumbria Trophy for Songwriting in 1975 and demonstrated that it had stood the test of time, still proving relevant to north eastern life a quarter of a century later.

The Faversham Folk Club concert starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £7 for members or £8 for non-members. To find out more visit [www.favershamfolkclub.net](http://www.favershamfolkclub.net).



## DARA O'BRIAIN

New Season  
Winter Gardens, Margate



A GIANT of comedy will among the top acts visiting Thanet over the next few months.

Irish comic Dara O'Briain has long been a highly respected stand-up, but he really became a household name as the acerbic host of Mock the Week. Fans are sure to enjoy an evening packed with hilarious stories and witty banter with the audience when he comes to Margate on March 5. Tickets for O'Briain's shows are always in high demand, so book now to avoid missing out on this comic treat.

Lostprophets will be rocking the Winter Gardens next month and there will be more entertainers making a big noise in the ring, when LDN Wrestling presents a night of British greats in action. Another Mock the Week favourite, Frankie Boyle, brings his unique brand of humour to Margate in April, followed by celebrity psychic Sally Morgan in May.

The Winter Gardens regularly plays host to the country's hottest acts - shows by JLS and Diversity have already sold out, so take a look at the website for full season listings.

To book tickets or find out more, call the box office on 01843 292795/296111 or visit the website at [www.margatewintergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatewintergardens.co.uk)



## CANTERBURY LEISURE

### Exhibit your artistic talent in open display

YOUNG artists aged from 11 to 16 are invited to exhibit at the Horsebridge Centre's first A2 Open Exhibition.

Entry to the exhibition, which runs from February 5 to 14, costs £8 and is restricted to two A2 pieces per artist.

For full details about guidelines or an application pack call the Whitstable centre on 01227 281174 or email [info@horsebridge-centre.org.uk](mailto:info@horsebridge-centre.org.uk).

### Friends join forces with their shared interest

NEARLY half a century of friendship is reflected in a joint exhibition by Maudie Wakeman and Suzan Bedford-Stockwell.

A Shared Interest features decorative work by both artists in fabric, thread, beads and sequins.

The exhibition at the Horsebridge Arts & Community Centre in Whitstable runs until January 12. For details see [www.horsebridge-centre.org.uk](http://www.horsebridge-centre.org.uk) or call 01227 281174.

### Tune into this special show in the chapel

ENJOY a rare winter performance of Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro.

With a cast made up entirely of local talent, Canterbury Cathedral Garden Opera's production received great acclaim when it was first performed.

See the show at the Kent College Chapel at 6pm on Sunday. Tickets cost £15, see [www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk](http://www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk) or call the box office on 01227 787787.

### Club helps you to get more out of the theatre

THEATRE fans are invited to save money by joining a new club, Encore! Gulbenkian.

Members receive a number of benefits including £2 off the full price of selected shows at the Canterbury theatre.

One-year memberships cost £15/£10 for individuals and £20 for joint members. For details pop into the theatre or see [www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk).

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Dave Lee is Tinkerbell in this year's Canterbury pantos. Search Peter Pan

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# yourcanterburystyle

Picture: ARAPPOV SERGEY



MOZAMBIQUE

## Dream getaways

### Explore the world with these top destinations for 2010

**MAKE** a New Year's resolution to broaden your horizons by taking the trip of a lifetime this year.

According to the World Travel Guide, tourists will be flocking to enjoy the many diverse pleasures of 10 particular hotspots. So whether you yearn for long, relaxing days on a tranquil beach or the thrill of exploring jungles, mountains or cities, here are some tantalising suggestions for getting away from it all in 2010.

With its violent past now a distant memory, lush and green Colombia offers everything from the exciting cultural life of capital Bogotá to the hedonistic party atmosphere of Cali.

New Zealand tends to be on everyone's travel wish list, so why not make this the year that you discover its dramatic mountains, stunning beaches and abundance of outdoor activities, available all year round. Although New Zealand is firmly on the backpacking trail, the country offers many luxury options for those who like to see the wilderness in style.

From endangered animals to the world's highest mountain, Nepal is home to some of the planet's great wonders. Enjoy the frantic pace of life in Kathmandu, paraglide over the incredible landscape or, if you're feeling really adventurous, make the trek to Everest Base Camp and admire the towering majesty of this captivating mountain.

This year, South Africa will be at the centre of the sporting world when it hosts the 2010 World Cup, but football fans should not forget the beautiful landscapes, thriving cities and

brehtaking wildlife that are waiting to be discovered. India has always fascinated travellers from all over the world, but it takes its share of the sporting limelight this year with the Commonwealth Games in Delhi.

Divers and water babies will be in heaven in Mozambique, a tropical strip on the Indian Ocean whose waters reveal a fabulous world of gorgeous maritime wildlife. With good transport links to South Africa, it makes the ideal



COLOMBIA

Picture: GRAHAM S KLOTZ

double break for those travelling for the World Cup.

Find out why Sweden is the European Green Capital with a visit to Stockholm, where life is substantially more eco-friendly and there is a wealth of great culture and even better food to enjoy.

In recent years Croatia has become a really

NEPAL



Picture: ALAN RRAFT

popular holiday destination, with bustling beach resorts and the fascinating walled city of Dubrovnik attracting even the

rich and famous. Turkey is the place to be for galleries, festivals and other exciting events this year, as Istanbul is one of 2010's European Capitals of Culture.

For a truly glamorous getaway, find out why Abu Dhabi is becoming one of the world's top luxury holiday spots. For those with a big budget, a champagne lifestyle awaits in this most decadent and spectacular destination.

For more information on all these destinations, visit [www.worldtravelguide.net](http://www.worldtravelguide.net).



To search for shopping, services, leisure and entertainment log on @  
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INDIA

Picture: SLONEC

## CANTERBURY SHOPPING

### Drive them wild with this high speed present

MOTORSPORT fans can enjoy the ultimate introduction to racing with a track-day voucher for Brands Hatch.

Petrol heads can spend 20 minutes testing the corners and straights with their own vehicle at the famous track with the new introductory vouchers, priced at £20 for bikes and £25 for cars.

The vouchers can be bought online at [www.clubmsv.co.uk](http://www.clubmsv.co.uk).

Full trackday vouchers are also available and presented in a gift pack.

### Put them on course for their first hole in one

PERFECT birthday gifts are available from Chart Hills Golf Club in Biddenden.

Treat golf fans to a tuition voucher with one of the Chart Hills' Professional Golfers Association-qualified instructors. They can pick up some tips during one lesson for £30 or make great improvements to their game with a course of six lessons for £150. Call the Pro Shop on 01580 292148.

Find out more about the course and membership at [www.charthills.co.uk](http://www.charthills.co.uk).

### Volunteer yourself for a generous resolution

GIVE something back to the community this year and volunteer at your local British Heart Foundation shop.

There has been a huge rise in the amount of people volunteering for the BHF in the last year and the charity is calling on more generous people to make a New Year's resolution to give their time for a good cause.

For more information about volunteering opportunities call 0844 412 5000 or visit [www.bhf.org.uk/shops](http://www.bhf.org.uk/shops).

### Support the community when you buy locally

STOCK up on locally sourced foods at the new Woods Produce Store at The Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells.

Woods Restaurant and Bar has opened the store next door to its existing premises and shoppers can browse a wide variety of food and drink, from locally sourced and produced seasonal goods to fudge, chocolate, rapeseed oil and bath products by Mitchell & Peach, made from Kent Lavender.

See [www.woodsrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.woodsrestaurant.co.uk).

### Enjoy a healthy start to the year at fitness chain

GET the whole family in shape for 2010 with membership at a David Lloyd Club.

At the time of writing, the fitness chain was offering the chance to win a year's free family membership at your local club. Benefits include a personalised gym programme, a free 30-minute personal training taster session, a free Lose & Shape Up consultation and more.

For more information and to enter visit [www.davidlloyd.co.uk](http://www.davidlloyd.co.uk). David Lloyd has clubs in Maidstone and Dartford.



SWEDEN

Picture: RIMMO STADLER



NEW ZEALAND

Picture: DARYL H

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### WOMEN seeking men

**MAKE IT LAST** Slim female, 25, 5'10", long brown hair and blue eyes, caring and social, likes clubs, cinema, seeking a kind male, 30-45 for a relationship. Box 461558 **1**

**A NIGHT TO REMEMBER** Hi I'm Katie, caring, fun-loving, 5'10, slim single mum of 2. Enjoy clubbing and cosy nights in with genuine man. Box 453269 **1**

**MATCH OF THE DAY!** Fun-to-be with, blonde female, 25, 5'12, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446294 **1**

**NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...** Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5'11, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **1**

**LOOKIN 4 A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYE!** 25yr old female, 5'8, medium-curved body, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTW tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644 **1**

**IS ANYONE OUT THERE?** 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTW cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879391 **1**

**GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE** Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

**HORSES FOR COURSES...** Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

**A FAIRYTALE ENDING!** Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5'8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **1**

**HAPPY DAYS!** Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308374 **1**

**FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...** Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5'3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 455039 **1**

**SEALED WITH A KISS** Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, winning and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453075 **1**

**STARRY NIGHTS** Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair, enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378 **1**

**I LIKE DRIVING IN MY CAR** Honest, caring woman, 36, 5'10, slim, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest, have four children. I enjoy drives, horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159 **1**

**MEND A BROKEN HEART** Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053 **1**

**SEIZE THE DAY** Loving female, 36, 5'14, brown hair, green eyes, like socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **1**

**LOVE TO LOVE YOU** Lovely female, 36, 5'14, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **1**

**HISTORIC MEETING?** Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440893 **1**

**CUTE AS CAN BE** Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 **1**

**EASY TO LOVE** Lovely African female, 39, 5'14, likes football, socialising, cinema and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male for a LTR. Ashford. Box 460968 **1**

**AN AFRICAN DIAMOND** 38yr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446676 **1**

**DON'T LET ME DOWN** Pretty, black female, 38, 5'14, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 **1**

**YOUNG-AT-HEART** Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

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**SHOW ME HEAVEN** Black lady, 39yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area. Wltm a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608 **1**

**A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE** Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTW a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

**NO TIES** Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTW slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573 **1**

**TAKE A LITTLE TIME** Social lady, 41, 5'3", GSOH, likes family life, going out, cinema, walks, staying in, seeking a fun male for company. Sheerness. Box 461145 **1**

**CAN'T SMILE WITHOUT YOU** Professional female, 41, 5ft, brown hair/eyes, likes country pubs and walks, looking for a gent, 42-55, to share a happy future with. Gillingham Box 462538 **1**

**FOR A RELATIONSHIP?** Shy but confident once known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **1**

**LOVE IS ALL AROUND** Happy-go-lucky, bubbly blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley Box 454517 **1**

**YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT** Fun-loving lady, 42, 5ft, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy being outdoors, horse riding, pubs, cinema and sharing a nice bottle of wine. WLTW you! Box 865096 **1**

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### DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU?

Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5'8, dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5'8+/-, Box 461129 **1**

**ANOTHER CHAPTER** Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037 **1**

**TALL ORDER** Curvy lady, 5'10, 43yrs old, blonde hair/green eyes. I live in Deal in Kent, I'm down-to-earth and like being out and about. Box 456020 **1**

**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL!** Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5'10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **1**

**LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS** Laid-back single mum, very bubbly, outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and life-loving. Box 446102 **1**

**SWEET AS HONEY** Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-riding. Looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458465 **1**

**HOW YOU DOING?** Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea Box 459128 **1**

**STAY TRUE** Attractive, curvy, single mum, size 18, 44, kind, genuine, 5'5", loyal, loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea Box 461830 **1**

**LOVE TO MEET YOU** Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy, I like gardening, socialising, travel, walks. Looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464 **1**

**GENUINE REPLIES ONLY** Bubbly female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955 **1**

**ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL** Young-looking 46yr old female, 5'14, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5'10, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461938 **1**

**YOUNG AT HEART** Young 46, attractive, fun-loving female, looking for someone fit, handsome, intelligent, full of fun, sexy, Worldly Man to share everything that life has to offer. Box 884113 **1**

**MY PRINCE?** Not-just-for-mxmas dog lover, into sports, walks, motorbikes, GSOH, female, 47, pretty, long dark hair, looking for knight in shining armour! East Sussex area. Box 872961 **1**

**A REAL DIAMOND** African lady, 47, honest, loving and caring, enjoys most things in life, looking for a male, 50+, for a LTR. Canterbury Box 460999 **1**

**HELP ME OPEN UP** Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, WLTW male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585 **1**

**ETERNALLY YOURS** Easygoing woman, likes most things in life: country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5'12, medium build. WLTW genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635 **1**

**ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?** Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **1**

**MAKE A DATE** Friendly female, 48, blonde, blue eyes, medium build, likes most things, seeking a nice, genuine male 48-52. Canterbury. Box 460951 **1**

**MAKE IT ENJOYABLE** Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686 **1**

**LIKE MINDS** Single female, 49, enjoy a varied social life going out, tenpin bowling, out for meals, cinema, travelling, looking to meet someone with similar interests. Eastbourne. Box 865286 **1**

**ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING?** Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5'15, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434069 **1**

**HIT THE JACKPOT** Good-looking female, 50, looking for a kind, reliable and honest man, would be a moderate drinker, for companionship and romance. Box 878216 **1**

**LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE** Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh! out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 **1**

**JUST IMAGINE** Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us. Box 893562 **1**

**MAKE A DATE** Petite female, 52, blonde, blue eyes, seeks 48-61 year old single male for fr. Interests include walking, photography and more. Brighton. Box 866322 **1**

**CARING & PROFESSIONAL** Female 49, 5'14, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Can George call again with contact details? Box 471100 **1**

**LOVELY BUBBLY** Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with GSOH to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311 **1**

**DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?** Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet a attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 **1**

**COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPFULLY MORE CURRY & CUD-DLY** outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5'7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTW similar loving male. Box 443642 **1**

**PERFECT MATCH** Mature, attractive lady, fair hair, brown eyes, in good shape, loves travel, theatre, sport, music, seeking the company of a cultured, funny, adventurous male. Maidstone. Box 462273 **1**

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**SMART MOVE** Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 430654 **1**

**A FAIRY TALE ENDING** Bubbly blonde, 35, hazel eyes, hard-working, seeking a man, 45-55, to be my knight in shining armour. Heme Bay Box 455417 **1**

**ANIMAL LOVER** Attractive lady, non-smoker, aged 57, GSOH. I enjoy eating in/out, seeing friends, theatre, and WLTW similar, non-smoking male. Box 452498 **1**

**DINE WITH ME** Hi, I'm Marianne, 50s, tall and blonde, extrovert, love travel, sports, restaurants, the good things in life, looking for a tall, solvent gent, 40-50. Box 452191 **1**

**LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!** Petite lady, 55, 5'14, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

**WALKS ALONG THE COAST** Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, blonde, blue eyes, GSOH, loves cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 **1**

**MUSIC TO MY EARS** Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, cinema, travel, and WLTW similar male, for friendship, possible more. Box 419914 **1**

**BE YOURSELF** Outgoing lady, active, 60, tolerant, open-minded, loves life animals and genuine people, seeks a sincere man for more. Margate. Box 865760 **1**

**ORDINARY ME** Gillingham based lady, 60, looking for a male friend and companion. I'm friendly, blonde, 5'14, slim build. Box 462244 **1**

**LOVE ME DO** Loving and caring lady, 63, 5'13, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for a relationship, hopefully a LTR. Margate Box 460082 **1**

**SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...** Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5'13, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with good SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 **1**

**FIGHTING FIT?** Very young 64 year old lady, many interests, loves socialising, walks, music, dogs; seeks intelligent, unpretentious ex-serviceman/male? For committed relationship. Maidstone. Box 462717 **1**

**PUT SPARK INTO LIFE** Caring slim female, 64, 5'12, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion. Box 450581 **1**

**LET'S FALL IN LOVE** Lovely female, 65, 5'12, enjoys walking, bird-watching, cinema, theatre and red wine, seeking a male companion to share life with. Box 444763 **1**

**Women seeking women**  
**LET'S FIND OUT!** Hi, I'm a fun-loving, kind, passionate lady, 44, 5'8, with a wicked sense of humour, looking for friendship and what ever comes from there. Kent. Box 877446 **1**

**HOPE YOU'RE OUT THERE?** Sincere female, 49, likes football, animals, country pursuits, seeks feminine woman for friendship, maybe more. Gillingham Box 456805 **1**



### MEN seeking women

**MAKE A DATE** Canterbury chap, 28, wicked sense of humour, caring, cuddly and open-minded seeks companionship and more. My perfect evening...sola, movie, choccy's, a bottle of red. Box 863208 **1**

**LOVE-ONET** Kent-based male, 25, blond/blue, into clubbing, going out, tennis, football, seeks female, 20s, for friendship and more. Box 127012 **1**

**MAKE IT LAST** Slim, clean shaven guy, 29, love cars and bikes looking to share my heart with a curvy, natural, loving and caring woman for long-term companionship. Box 865405 **1**

**HURT NO MORE** Honest sincere male, 35, 6ft, blonde hair/blue eyes, slim, likes the usual pubs, clubs, meals, golf and films, seeks lady for honest relationship. Aylesford. Box 462686 **1**

**ENDLESS LOVE** Athletic male, 35, 5'8, professional, looking for a fun, lively and outgoing female to enjoy life with. GSOH is a must! Box 863555 **1**

**LOVE ME TENDER** Fun-loving honest guy, 34, 5'11, brown hair, seeking honest, caring female for friendship, maybe leading to honest, long-term relationship. Eastbourne. Box 446200 **1**

**BOTTLE OF WINE** Hi, easygoing male, 35, 5'9, medium build, brown hair, I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165 **1**

**AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER** Handsome, tall male, 38, 6'4", looking for a young lady to slowly re-discover the finer things in life. Box 454805 **1**

**INTERESTED?** Genuine male, 39, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'8", medium build, likes cooking, dining out, quiet holidays, seeking a lovely lady for good company. Ramsgate. Box 463493 **1**

**LIFE IS FOR LIVING** Divorced male, 40, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, loves live music, looking for a fun woman to enjoy life with, to go out for fun. Eastbourne Box 462094 **1**

**TWO HEARTS** Romantic male, 60, 6ft, slim build, GSOH, brown hair/eyes, enjoys football, pool, DIY, socialising with friends, cinema, seeks female, 36-45, GSOH, romantic. Sheerness Box 462768 **1**

**SEEKING MY MATCH** Single dad, 39, 6ft dark hair, nice looking, loyal, honest, separated. Looking for a loving, slim, fun-loving lady. Box 455890 **1**

**DO I ATTRACT YOU?** Happy go lucky single dad, 40, looking for a slim female, -size 12, to share good times and happiness with. Hunton Box 457739 **1**

**IT'S ALL INSIDE THAT COUNTS** Loving and caring male, 40, 5'10, medium build, average looks, seeks outgoing, loving, caring person to find love with. Canterbury. Box 458290 **1**

**FULLY HOUSE TRAINED!** Happy-go-lucky divorced single dad, 40, 5'10, medium build, 6ft, dark hair, love motorcycles, family time, cooking, WLTW female, prefer single mum, to enjoy life with. Polegate Box 864778 **1**

**BEING WITH YOU** I'm an honest, easygoing, young-looking, fit male, 40, 5'10, love live music, eating out, theatre, cinema and pubs, seeking a like-minded female. Box 893760 **1**

**PUT THAT SPARK BACK IN MY LIFE** Virgo male, 40, 5'10", stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTW like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446211 **1**

**HE'S MIGHTY FINE!** Virgo male, 40, 5'10, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTW like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446212 **1**

**LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR** Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Margate. Box 443750 **1**

**SO HAPPY TOGETHER** Single male, honest and caring, 56" non-smoker, 41, likes football, tennis, walks, music, the simple things in life would like to share them with you. Box 462848 **1**

**HIYA** I'm a cute and laid-back guy, 41, 5'8, short hair, athletic, very tactile, loving and spontaneous, likes shopping, travelling, eating in/out, hate football! Brighton. Box 450614 **1**

**ONE STEP CLOSER** Truthful male, 43, 5'8, brown hair/eyes, medium build, own house, enjoys most things, seeks loving woman. Brighton Box 455722 **1**

**THE REAL THING** Honest, hard working man, 40, 5'8", short dark hair, blue eyes, well-hung, looking for a lady to be a friend and attractive love. Box 463374 **1**

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**THE REAL THING** Happy-go-lucky, fun-loving male, 42, 5'10, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights out with a can of coke, seeking similar female for companionship. Box 441762 **1**

**SIMILAR INTERESTS?** Easygoing, laid back gent, compassionate and kind. I'm 45 and have dark hair. I love music (especially 60s/70s), travel, current affairs. WLTW fun, easygoing woman. Box 458860 **1**

**THE FIRST KISS** Liverpoolian male, 43, loves football, works for the NHS, loves fun and going to movies, seeking female to share a date with and maybe more. Box 446633 **1**

**IN LOVE** Single 50s male looking for lady for loving friendship. I'm honest, sincere, genuine and love a laugh, hoping for lasting romance. Box 451188 **1**

**TAKE ON ME** Blue eyed male, 45, 6ft, medium-athletic build, likes country/coastal walks, live music bars and cinema; seeks attractive romantic female 35-55 for nights out/maybe LTR. Maidway. Box 468753 **1**

**SHARE THE GOOD LIFE** Professional male, 45, own home/car, likes cinema, weekends away, the coast, a BBQ and good wine, looking for friendship, hopefully more. Box 426202 **1**

**FAMILY LIFE** Happy-go-lucky dad, 46, sportsy, keen in good shape, own place, looking for an honest person to get to know well, possibly for relationship. Box 452446 **1**

**ROMANCE IS ALIVE** Easygoing 46yr old good looking male, GSOH, looking for a bubbly female, 45-45, for romance and share the good things in life. Box 454688 **1**

**GET YOUR FEET WET** Separated male, 47, 5'8" medium build, 14 stone, enjoys going out, holidays, walks on the beach looking for a trust-worthy lady 40-50. Eastbourne. Box 458485 **1**

**MADE TO MAKE YOU HAPPY** Easygoing guy with GSOH, 46, not bad looking, looking for someone to enjoy friendship, romance and maybe something more. Eastbourne. Box 456248 **1**





## PROPERTY NEWS

### Google set to move in on property market

GOOGLE is believed to be developing plans to launch a property portal in the UK that would compete with Rightmove.

According to analysts, talks are progressing with estate agents and listings on the new site could be free, unlike Rightmove's, with revenues generated from advertising.

Rightmove currently operates the UK's largest property portal and claims to advertise about 90 per cent of all homes for sale.

Rival website FindaProperty.com is predicting that 2010 will be a year of "consolidation rather than fireworks" for the UK housing market, with house price growth likely to be in the region of -2 per cent to +4 per cent.

The firm expects pent-up need for people to sell to affect the market in January and February, resulting in a 10 per cent surge in stock that could create further price dips across the UK.

FindaProperty director Michael O'Flynn ended the report by saying: "Confidence is on the rise as the UK is looking set to come out of recession in Q4 of this year."

### Drop in prices a blow for retirement funds

BRITONS' reliance on property has left more than one million over-50s looking gloomily on their retirement prospects, according to a recent study.

According to a poll by insurer LV=, 12 per cent of homeowners aged 50 and over are relying on capital growth from their homes to part-fund their non-working years.

The boom years of the UK's housing market encouraged lower contributions to pension schemes in the belief that house prices would continue to rise.

The expectation continues, despite the average home having lost £27,250 in value over the past two years, with 29 per cent of 4,000 people questioned expecting prices to recover within five years.

Meanwhile, 17 per cent are proposing to improve their homes to adjust their losses and 21 per cent will save more for retirement.

LV= spokeswoman Vanessa Owen said: "In a matter of months millions of pre-retirees have seen both their property and pension fund values battered. Despite this, their confidence in the long-term value of bricks and mortar remains."



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# Estate agents feel the pressure in recession

■ BY NICK AMES

WHILE house prices may be on the rise due to a restricted supply of sellers, new figures show that one in six estate agencies has closed over the past year.

Research carried out by The Local Data Company across the UK's largest markets during the 12 months to October 2009 shows 142 outlets – 15.8 per cent – shut.

Chains of five units or more were worst hit, losing 54 outlets – 16.8 per cent – compared with 89 independents – 15.2 per cent.

Looking at the chains based on figures for the whole country, Halifax was the biggest casualty, shutting 30.6 per cent of its branches, going from 147 to 102.

Baird remains the most dominant force, with 174 outlets compared with 218 in 2008, which is still a large drop of 20.2 per cent.

Savills closed just six of its 80 branches – a cut of 7.5 per cent.

James Moss is a director at Curzon Investment Property, one firm to have bucked the trend.

He said: "The closures are a direct result of the property crash, but the other huge problem we have is that people see estate agents more like window salesmen than doctors.

"With no mandatory licensing system in the UK, a murderer could get out of jail one day and become an estate agent the next.

"While the best estate agents are great, often they are few and far between and it's no wonder that many less reputable ones have closed.

"This means that overall standards are often low compared with America, Australia or France, where agents are fully licensed and held in high esteem.

"While various trade bodies have voluntary schemes, by definition these won't catch the crooks.

"Mandatory licensing of all estate agents is vital if we're to improve the quality of service and build the standing of the profession in the eyes of the public."



**TOUGH TIMES:** Estate agents have struggled in the downturn, while their industry also has an image problem

## Tories pledge to axe unpopular HIPs

FIGURES from the Conservative Party claim that some two million house-sellers have so far stumped up a combined £657.6 million for Home Information Packs (HIPs).

The packs were phased in during 2007, just as the UK property market began to crumble, and critics claim their usefulness has remained in

question as they do not contain the one document a buyer most wants to see – a property survey.

However, the Tories claim that HIPs have raised £94 million for the Treasury in the form of VAT and are promising to get rid of the packs if they take office.

Only the need for an Energy Performance Certificate, current-

ly part of the HIP, would be maintained.

Shadow housing minister Grant Shapps said: "By imposing a £657.6 million burden on the housing market during the longest recession in living memory, Labour's short-sighted policy is milking the industry dry."

He added: "They should have

listened to the consumers, the industry and the Conservative Party and scrapped this discredited scheme before it even began."

Conservatives claim that the number of homes for sale remains at a record low and HIPs can be blamed for removing speculative vendors from the market.

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- Popular Residential Location
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**Whitstable | £180,000 - £200,000**

- Unique 4 Bed End of Terrace House
- Arranged Over 3 Floors. Courtyard Garden
- Some Updating Required

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**Canterbury | £165,000 - £185,000**

- Very Well Proportioned Ground Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Living Area, Fitted Kitchen
- DG, Allocated Parking Space

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**Canterbury | £145,000**

- Superb 2 Bed Detached Park Home
- Large Living Room and Dining Room
- Conservatory, En-Suite, Parking Space

**CANTERBURY OFFICE | 01227 766669**



**Broad Oak | £40,000 - £60,000**

- 1 Bedroom Park Home, Fitted Kitchen
- DG, Communal Off Road Parking
- No Onward Chain

**CANTERBURY OFFICE | 01227 766669**



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## Chartham Hatch

Offers in excess of £350,000

Spacious five bedroom detached chalet bungalow in delightful village of Chartham Hatch. Accommodation two receptions, conservatory, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and and shower room. .

**Canterbury Office**

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## Faversham

£365,000

Listed Georgian period property. The current owners have enjoyed living in the property since 1964 and can vouch for the strong sense of community within the street, given leadership and influence by the Abbey Street Society..

**Faversham Office**

**01795 538112**



## Harbledown

£205,000

A delightful two bedroom cottage situated in a popular village with stunning views from rear garden. A must view.

**Canterbury Office**

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## Chilham

£225,000

Three Bedroom End of Terrace House. Cul de Sac Location.. Sought after Village of Chilham. Two Receptions.

**Canterbury Office**

**01227 457253**



## Faversham

£127,000

Lounge with separate dining room. Central heating. Rear garden. No chain

**Faversham Office**

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Selling property  
and Geering  
& Colyer...

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are just meant to be



## Sittingbourne

£159,950

Well presented two bedroom property which forms part of an Old School Development. Benefits from double glazing, gas central heating, fitted kitchen and bathroom.

**Faversham Office**

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## Boughton-under-Blean

£159,999

Well presented two bedroom period property with the additional benefit of a loft room. The property benefits from a lounge with cast iron stove fitted kitchen and bathroom. and enclosed rear garden.

**Faversham Office**

**01795 538112**



## Canterbury

OIEO £165,000

NO CHAIN. Two bedroom Grade II listed three storey cottage currently undergoing refurbishment. Lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Cellar, gas central heating and a rear garden.

**Canterbury Office**

**01227 457253**



## Blean

OIEO £205,000

Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Cottage. Utility Room. Conservatory. Gated Driveway.

**Canterbury Office**

**01227 457253**



## Faversham

£234,950

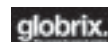
A beautifully presented three bedroom bay fronted home with two reception rooms, a kitchen and a cellar to the ground floor, an en suite and a family bathroom.

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- Cellar And A Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing, Central Heating
- Enclosed Rear Garden

**£280,000**

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- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Superb Local Schools.
- Village Location. No Chain

**Offers In Excess Of £499,995**

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#### Blean

- Four Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge/Dining Area, Kitchen
- Study, Family Bathroom

**£299,995**

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#### Canterbury

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- Lounge & Kitchen/Dining Area
- Cloakroom, Garage

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#### Canterbury

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- Well Presented, Study
- Double Glazed

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- Self-Contained Annexe
- Currently Used As A B&B

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#### Canterbury

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garage & Orp.

**Guide Price £265k To 285k**

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#### Canterbury

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Off Road Parking

**£179,995**

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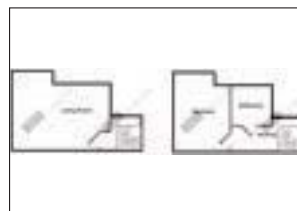


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- Two Bedroom Retirement Cottage
- Situated In Village Of Wingham.
- Internal Viewing Recommended

**£159,000**

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#### Sturry

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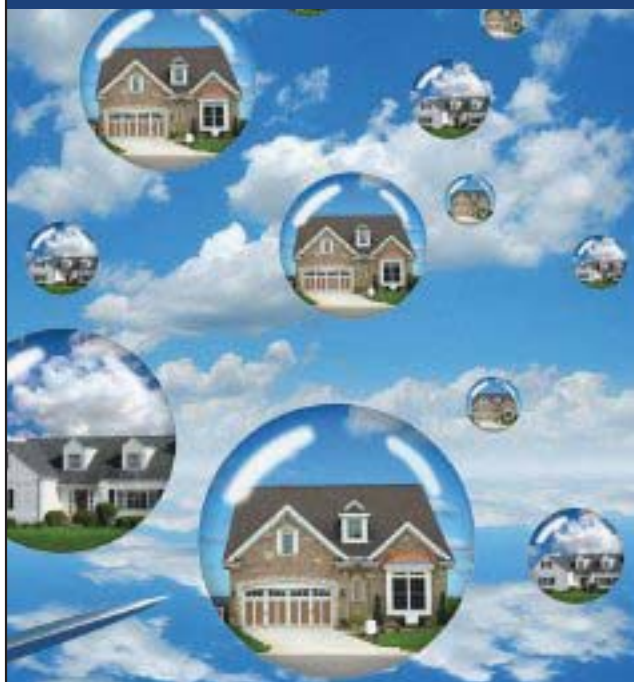
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**Countrywide**

## Canterbury



**£60,000**

Purpose built one bedroom retirement flat, residents lounge, communal gardens and laundry facilities, lift facilities.

## Canterbury



**£139,995**

No chain. This spacious and well presented ground floor apartment is situated in the sought after area of south Canterbury. A must view!

## Canterbury



**£159,950**

Three bedroom semi detached house. Sunroom/conservatory, lounge, fitted kitchen. Convenient to the City Centre & Herne Bay

## Sturry Hill



**£175,000**

Retirement Property, residents must be over the age of 55 years. Lounge/diner, shower rm/wc and fitted kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom/wc

## Chartham



**£189,950**

Modern detached. Patio courtyard, rocky garden and main garden. Contemporary designed lounge, double glazing, gas central heating and garage.

## Canterbury



**£227,500**

Grade II Cottage which is a former stable block built in the late 1700's. Private parking and some original features which add to the charm of this home.

## Canterbury



**£235,000**

Three storey Grade II home. Three bedrooms. Lounge with Inglenook fireplace. No chain.

## Littlebourne



**£249,950**

A charming Grade II listed cottage with offers three bedroom, bathroom, lounge/ diner, fitted kitchen and an established cottage garden.

## Ickham



**£270,000**

Grade II listed home. Comprises of lounge/diner with feature wood burner stove and kitchen with two bedrooms and bathroom.

## Tyler Hill



**£315,000**

Three bedroom family home. Front & rear gardens, cloakroom, fitted kitchen, utility area, lounge, central heating & double glazing.

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Canterbury Branch



# Connells

<b>STURRY</b> £89,950  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Bed Apartment</li> <li>• Owners Lounge</li> <li>• Stairlift to First Floor</li> <li>• 24 Hour Support Line if Needed</li> </ul>	<b>BARHAM</b> £229,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached Bungalow</li> <li>• Two / Three Bedrooms</li> <li>• Off Road Parking</li> <li>• Village Location</li> </ul>	<b>WINCHEAP</b> £235,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Bedrooms 2 En Suites</li> <li>• Kitchen / Breakfast Room</li> <li>• Lounge / Diner, Bathroom</li> <li>• Rear Garden, Garage</li> </ul>	<b>BROAD OAK</b> £299,950  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four Bed Detached House</li> <li>• Garage and Off Road Parking</li> <li>• Large Rear Garden with Decking</li> <li>• No Chain Ahead</li> </ul>	<b>WINGHAM</b> £275,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Bed Semi detached Cottage</li> <li>• "Jack and Jill" style Bathroom</li> <li>• Additional En Suite</li> <li>• Conservatory</li> </ul>	<b>CANTERBURY</b> £165,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi detached House</li> <li>• 3 Bedrooms</li> <li>• Lounge and Sun Room</li> <li>• Off Street Parking, NO CHAIN</li> </ul>
<b>ADISHAM</b> £189,995  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi detached Property</li> <li>• Two Bed and Loft Room</li> <li>• Fitted Kitchen and Cellar</li> <li>• Garage</li> </ul>	<b>CANTERBURY</b> £236,500  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached family Home</li> <li>• Four Bedrooms, 2 En Suite</li> <li>• Two reception Rooms</li> <li>• Fitted Kitchen</li> </ul>	<b>CANTERBURY</b> £299,995  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four bed Detached House</li> <li>• Fitted kitchen</li> <li>• Two reception rooms</li> <li>• Conservatory, Garage</li> </ul>	<b>AYLESHAM</b> £116,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village Location</li> <li>• 2 Bedroom Terraced Home</li> <li>• No Chain</li> </ul>	<b>City Centre</b> £60,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusively for the over 60's</li> <li>• Warden Assisted</li> <li>• One Bedroom Apartment</li> <li>• Communal Lounge</li> </ul>	<b>Chartham</b> £210,000  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Bedroom Townhouse</li> <li>• Popular Development</li> <li>• Garage &amp; Parking</li> <li>• En Suite</li> </ul>

Tel: 0845 8732417 • canterbury@connells.co.uk






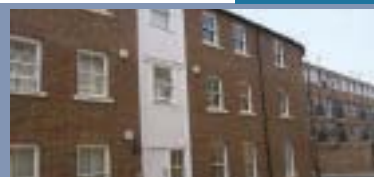


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# Connells

<b>AYLESHAM</b> £575PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two bedrooms</li> <li>• Good access to A2</li> <li>• Off street parking</li> <li>• Available now</li> </ul>	<b>CANTERBURY</b> £595PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One bedroom flat</li> <li>• Good condition</li> <li>• Good size property</li> <li>• Available soon</li> </ul>	<b>STURRY</b> £595PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two double bedrooms</li> <li>• Cosy Cottage feel</li> <li>• Good access to city centre</li> <li>• Available now</li> </ul>	<b>LITTLEBOURNE</b> £595PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One bedroom</li> <li>• Additional study room</li> <li>• Village location</li> <li>• Available soon</li> </ul>
<b>TYLER HILL</b> £675PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two bedrooms</li> <li>• Ground Floor</li> <li>• Village location</li> <li>• Available now</li> </ul>	<b>CANTERBURY</b> £775PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two bedrooms</li> <li>• Second Floor</li> <li>• En-suite to master</li> <li>• Available immediately</li> </ul>	<b>SOUTH CANTERBURY</b> £800PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two double bedrooms</li> <li>• En-suite to master</li> <li>• Off street parking</li> <li>• Available now</li> </ul>	<b>ROUGH COMMON</b> £1250PCM  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four bedrooms</li> <li>• En-suite to master</li> <li>• Garage</li> <li>• Available now</li> </ul>

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## MOTORS NEWS



### Citroën delivers little touch of luxury with C3

IT'S a small car, but the Citroën C3 launched on January 15 represents a big statement by the increasingly confident French marque.

It delivers a larger feel for those who really are trading a family hatchback or something bigger in favour of this five-door supermini – the airy cabin is also aided by a panoramic front screen on all but the lowliest models (from £10,790).

This brings a stylish luxury touch to the C3 range and defines its more upmarket stance compared to its predecessor.



### Venga is due here soon

KIA'S all-new and crisply styled Venga arrives soon to attack the Ford Fiesta sector.

Touted as a premium product, it has Honda Jazz-like baby MPV proportions with an unusually long wheelbase and high roofline for a big cabin.

Sliding rear seats fold flat to the floor for the van-like cargo capability preferred by supermini buyers.

Both the 75bhp 1.4-litre petrol and 115bhp 1.6-litre diesel powertrains will be available with Stop and Go technology to save fuel and emissions. Luxury options include a tilt/slide panoramic roof.



### Mazda's sporty MPV 5 gets even better for '10

NEW Year changes for the sporty Mazda5 MPV have upgraded kit and the line-up, with more easily identifiable Takara and Furano models replacing the previous TS2 and Sport.

The '5' has always been both good to drive and versatile with sliding rear doors and easy-folding seating for seven at a pinch.

But the overhaul disguises a price hike of nearly £1,000 for the four petrol and two diesel models – now from £17,150 and £19,555 respectively.



**QUICK OFF THE MARK:** The new five-door Vauxhall Astra is a stunning all-rounder and includes innovative thinking about how people use storage in a typical family hatch

# Astra delivers an upbeat plotline for the new year

## ROAD TEST VAUXHALL ASTRA

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

LET us hope that 2010 starts a new episode for Vauxhall after a plotline last year worthy of a TV soap.

One minute Vauxhall's US overlord General Motors was inviting bidders for the UK brand and continental counterpart Opel and then it was all change – 'no deal' said the Yanks.

It soured a year in which Vauxhall/Opel's Vectra replacement, the Insignia, scooped the European Car of the Year Award 2009, and the sixth generation Astra nearly earned the 2010 gong, for what would have been a remarkable double.

And the latter probably deserved the honour more than the Insignia; the new five-door Astra is built at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside – which won the right after becoming Europe's most efficient GM plant – and is a stunning all-rounder, echoing the Insignia's slick styling while setting high cabin standards for the family hatchback sector.

This includes innovative thinking about how people use storage in a typical family hatch and, as with its predecessor, a racy downswept roofline that does not eat into rear headroom.

The sector currently accounts for 23 per cent

of registrations, but 60 per cent of that goes to the company/fleet sector and Vauxhall wants to woo the more discerning and profitable private buyer – the Astra is right on the money there.

It drives as well as it looks; the previous car was no slouch, but Vauxhall delved into Britain's industrial past and used a Watts linkage for the rear of the chassis – another ingenious invention by 18th century steam pioneer James Watt.

This counters lateral pressures when cornering hard and makes the Astra one of the best handling cars in its sector.

Nimbleness is aided by a revitalised engine line-up including an eagerly awaited all-new 140PS (138bhp) 1.4-litre turbo petrol unit, replacing the conventional 1.8 unblown unit of the old car.

We've said it before, but lightweight yet punchy petrol engines could halt the switch to diesel as they begin to deliver more low down urge, better economy and lower emissions.

This engine (from £17,290) certainly sits well here and if you want more petrol power there is also a classy 180PS 1.6-litre Turbo (from £20,555) – the most powerful unit available for now. Astra prices start at £15,675.



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BY STEVE LOADER @  
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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### BRITAIN'S FAVOURITE SUPERMINIS

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AS more people downsize their car, fuel and road tax bills, chances are that one or all of the following popular used superminis will be on their shopping list. Year in, year out they are the UK's most consistent best-sellers – a growing trend in the current economic climate. The trio are also excellent all-rounders, but a word of warning: second-hand car prices are robust at present so don't pay more than it would cost to keep your old car longer or trade up to a new car.

#### FORD FIESTA



FORD'S hugely successful supermini has marched on with a new model launched in late 2008, but don't expect weaker used prices; the credit crunch, rising fuel prices and draconian road taxes have made the Fiesta a top target for its reliability, decent driving experience, engines to suit all pockets and three and five-door body styles. Ford has also regularly produced special and limited editions laden with extra goodies, offering plenty more choice – there's even a hot ST model.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### RENAULT CLIO



DOWNSIZING can be sensible and chic with the Clio and the most recent generations have married durability and driving fun with Gallic charm. Again, the option of three or five doors is a big selling point, but our French contender also has the bonus of excellent diesel versions, though the cost of the actual fuel versus petrol argues against it currently. The Clio design has tended to be highly practical as well as charming, with good space for rear passengers.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### VAUXHALL CORSA



VAUXHALL'S Corsa was created to attack the Fiesta, yet has never quite achieved the volumes of its rival. Nevertheless, it offers similar virtues, plus a greater range of engines including a punchy and frugal three-cylinder petrol engine now in greater demand due to these straitened times. Several generations of Corsa followed a 'teardrop' body style, but the latest car is bigger and more aggressively sculpted – almost a 'supersize supermini' – with a sporty VXR version too.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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3x1  
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£7,995.00

6x2  
Max. 25 words

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**Senior & General Appointments** 34-36

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**Closing date: Friday 15 January 2009**

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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### ASSISTANT TRAINER

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You will possess the appropriate skills to engage young people in Hospitality and Catering to increase their participation and progression.

Contact [colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk](mailto:colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk) or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack.

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This post will be based at our Pathways Centre which specialises in Construction

Contact [carlie.kimpton@nacro.org.uk](mailto:carlie.kimpton@nacro.org.uk) or call Carlie Kimpton on 01634 402761 for an application pack.

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£17,834

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These posts will work from our Sittingbourne Centre



Contact [colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk](mailto:colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk) or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack. Closing date for all the above posts is 8 January 2010

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Pictures IGOR KUPCO



SCORE: Mike Melford's try got Canterbury back in the game

## League leaders prove too strong for Canterbury

### Canterbury 13 Barking 17

CANTERBURY began the year with a spirited display in defeat as they pushed the league leaders all the way on Saturday.

The home side scored two tries in five second-half minutes to narrow the gap to a single point, but Barking held firm before a late drop goal gave them some degree of comfort.

Canterbury took the lead midway through the first-half with a drop goal from fly-half Phil Gibson. The advantage was short-lived as a defensive lapse from the city club gifted the visitors their first try.

### RUGBY

The lead was extended five minutes before the interval when a spell of sustained pressure provoked a series of infringements from the Canterbury front row. The referee eventually lost patience and awarded Barking a penalty try, which put them 14-3 ahead.

The scoreline remained the same until the hour mark, when Mike Melford bulldozed his way past two tackles out wide to dive over. Gibson missed the conversion but Canterbury scored again shortly afterwards

when Ed Roche scored.

Gibson again missed, leaving Canterbury 14-13 down. Barking showed their mettle to survive the pressure and scored a drop goal in the dying minutes to close out a hard-fought victory.

On Sunday a much-changed Canterbury were knocked out of the Kent Cup by Sevenoaks. The London 2 South East side won 24-8 in difficult conditions at Merton Lane to progress to the third round.

Next up for Canterbury is a league trip to Shelford, who sit one place and six points below them in National 2 South's top half.

Picture ADY KERRY



INDOORS: Canterbury eye a top-four finish

## Ladies set sights on indoor finals

SECURING a place at the National Indoor Hockey Championships' finals weekend is the priority for Canterbury ladies this weekend.

The indoor season in the Premier Division is divided into two weekends of round robin games either side of the New Year, with the top four sides progressing to finals weekend at the end of this month.

Canterbury go into the second cluster of games this weekend firmly in contention for a top-four finish after an encouraging start to the competition last month. Despite losing their opening game to Leicester, victories against Ipswich, Clifton and Chelmsford leaves Canterbury third at the halfway stage.

The top nine ladies sides in the country return to Fleming Park in Eastleigh, Hampshire, this weekend to complete the group phase. Two wins from their four games should be enough to send Canterbury through to finals day, but they begin on Saturday with league leaders Slough, who have a 100 per cent record so far.

Olton & West Warwicks, without a point from their first four games, are next. The group stage is completed on Sunday with Canterbury facing Trojans and Bowdon Hightown, who are two of the sides capable of dislodging them from the top four.

Canterbury will be hoping to emulate their achievements from last season, when they won all four of their games on the second weekend to win the group. Their stay at finals weekend was short-lived though, with a tense 4-3 defeat to Bowdon in the semi-finals.

Should they finish in the top-four, this year's finale will be held at the Nottingham Arena on January 30-31.

Canterbury's men, who were relegated from the top flight last season, do not begin their Division One campaign until next weekend.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk**



### FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

### Herne Bay 3

M Turner 28, D Lawrence 30, King 85

### Tunbridge Wells 0



HERNE Bay awoke from their lengthy hibernation with no ill-effects as they swept past Tunbridge Wells to begin the New Year in style.

Goals from Michael Turner and Danny Lawrence in the space of three first-half minutes put the hosts in charge. Stuart King added gloss to the scoreline late on with a third as Bay ran out comfortable winners in their first competitive game in three weeks.

Manager Simon Halsey admitted he had spent the freezing festive period fretting about how to keep his players sharp and was relieved with the outcome.

He said: "With the Christmas period and a lot of them being young players, it's easy to forget about football and enjoy themselves. We had them in training a few times and played a friendly against Canterbury City, which was very helpful.

### Delighted

"I was absolutely delighted with the way they played. I don't want to disrespect them but it was a very one-sided game – we dominated from the first minute to the last."

Skipper Luke Harvey's thigh strain was not risked, so Halsey started with the diminutive Jamie Turner and Rob Lawrence up front.

The game only went ahead thanks to some determined work from groundsman Charlie Turner and his efforts were quickly rewarded as the home side set about Tunbridge Wells. The visitors were on the back foot almost immediately and only some last-ditch defending kept Bay out.

Resistance was broken on 28 minutes. Simon Moore's cross was not dealt with and the ball broke to Michael Turner, who fired home. From the next attack Bay doubled their lead, again making the most of a poor clearance. This time Danny Lawrence received the ball on the edge of the box before volleying home with aplomb.

Rob Lawrence hit the woodwork with a powerful effort before the break and Sean Bremner saw a volley well saved by Wells' goalkeeper Michael Czanner ten minutes after the resumption.

Wells' task grew more difficult on 58 minutes when Steve Ashmore saw red for a challenge on Danny Lawrence. The game petered out until



OPENER: Michael Turner (blue and white) slots in Herne Bay's first goal of the year to send Simon Halsey's team on their way to a comfortable victory Picture: IGOR KUPCO

the introduction of King, who came off the bench to fire low past Czanner.

With leaders Faversham Town simultaneously slipping up at Greenwich Borough, Bay narrowed the gap to seven points with two games in hand. Before their next league game they are in cup action, starting at home to Holmesdale in the Kent Senior Trophy this Saturday.

Despite their good position in the league, Halsey rubbished any suggestion he would rotate his side.

He said: "I'm not into that at all, we'll pick out strongest available 16 whatever the competition."

### Bay starting XI



Subs used: Gess (D Lawrence 60), Crofts (Marsden 79), King (R Lawrence 80)



# Key backs Kent's plan to play 'home' game at Oval

## CRICKET

BY GLENN PEARSON

KENT skipper Rob Key believes the club's decision to stage a Twenty20 home game at the Brit Oval in the summer will help the county's future recruitment of players.

Hosting the Kent Spitfires' T20 clash with old foes the Essex Eagles at the Oval in Surrey has predictably been met with a degree of scepticism from some of the club's members, but Key has urged all Kent supporters to look at the bigger picture.

The club hope the game, scheduled for July 9, will bring in extra revenue during the county's T20 campaign as they look to fill the 23,500 capacity ground in Kennington.

Key told this newspaper: "I think it's fantastic, it's obviously been in the pipeline for a few weeks and as captain I am aware of how important it is going to be from a financial point of view. For the last couple of years, like everywhere else, money has been hard to come by and to put out a decent team you need money as much as anything else and this could be a huge part of being able to compete.

"There is always a big jigsaw puzzle trying to make the finances meet with the quality of player you want, so this could make life a lot easier, not just for the team we put out next



Picture: ADY KERRY

**FINANCE:** Rob Key urges members to look at bigger picture

year, but what we are able to provide for the next generation of Kent players coming through."

For some Kent supporters, however, the move to stage cricket outside the county for the first time in the club's 168-year history is a further blow after Kent chiefs announced a 57 per cent hike in membership last month to allow for the inclusion of T20 cricket. Some of the club's members are hoping to get 100 names on a petition to call for a Special

General Meeting and the news that Kent will play a game in south London, instead of playing at Canterbury or one of the county's outgrounds, has had a mixed response.

Key, who signed a deal to stay at Kent at the end of last season, sympathises with supporters but hopes they will back the club in its ambitious attempts to progress from being a second tier county.

"In the past we have been able to put a half decent side out and that is down to the membership because we are one of the best supported clubs in the country," he said. "Without that we haven't got a great deal, but hopefully they can see this is a good way of supporting us even more and really making a massive difference. We have to look at the bigger picture - there are so many more positives than negatives to come out of this."

As the club embarks on an £8.2 million facelift for the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury, three other T20 fixtures will be played at the county's outgrounds. The Worsley Bridge Road ground in Beckenham will host fixtures against the Somerset Sabres and Surrey Brown Caps, while the hugely popular Nevill in Tunbridge Wells stages the opening game of Kent's T20 campaign against the Sussex Sharks.

Key said: "Taking the games around the county keeps it fresh. T20 is a great product, but like anything you can over kill it. We played at Tunbridge Wells last year and it was a sell out and when you play in front of a packed crowd it is a great feeling for the players."

## FOOTBALL



Picture: DAVID MILLANEY

**EXPERIENCE:** City goalkeeper Paul Hyde

## Fairclough eyes a strong City finish

A TOP-four finish is the target for Canterbury City by the end of the season, according to manager Dave Fairclough.

After a hugely successful first two seasons since reforming, City's rapid ascent up the league pyramid has slowed in the Kent County League Premier Division. They have already lost more league games this season than in the two previous promotion campaigns put together, and head into the New Year seventh in the table.

Fairclough believes his side needed time to adapt to the higher standard and after three wins in their last four games, is sure of a strong finish to the season.

### Aspire

He said: "I'm targeting the top-four, which would be a respectable position for our first season at this level. Clearly the ambition is to try and progress to the Kent League, we have to aspire to that."

"I think at the moment we're about six points down on what we would've liked by this stage. In the early part of the season we were playing good football but not getting an end product. Defences at this level are so much better organised to what we had been used to, but now we are looking to put them under pressure earlier, which is working."

The addition of experienced players such as veteran goalkeeper Paul Hyde has helped the squad adjust to the higher demands of the County League. City have also played several friendlies against Kent League sides throughout the season and were due to play at Hythe Town last night.

The wintry weather has kept the club out of action in recent weeks but they are due to return to league action on Saturday with a trip to second-bottom Orpington. The club's ladies did play last weekend, beating Island Eagles 10-0 in the first round of the League Cup.

## LEAGUE TABLES

### RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Folkestone Invicta	21	15	5	1	+19	50
2 Worthing	22	14	1	7	+17	43
3 Godalming Town	20	12	3	5	+15	39
4 Walton & Hersham	21	11	4	6	+7	37
5 Croydon Athletic	19	10	6	3	+21	36
6 Fleet Town	20	10	3	7	+11	33
7 Ramsgate	20	9	5	6	+7	32
8 Mersham	21	9	5	7	-1	32
9 Chatham Town	22	9	3	10	-6	30
10 Sittingbourne	18	8	4	6	+7	28
11 Burgess Hill Town	19	8	4	7	+2	28
12 Corinthian-Casuals	21	8	3	10	-3	27
13 Whyteleafe	21	8	2	11	+2	26
14 Dulwich Hamlet	20	6	3	8	0	26
15 Leatherhead	18	7	3	8	+4	24
16 Horsham YMCA	22	7	9	8	-4	24
17 Metropolitan Police	20	5	7	8	+3	22
18 Walton Casuals	20	6	4	10	-7	22
19 Chipstead	22	5	5	12	-14	20
20 Whitstable Town	21	5	2	14	-27	17
21 Eastbourne Town	22	3	7	12	-23	16
22 Ashford Town	18	2	5	11	-30	11

### KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Faversham Town	15	11	2	2	+24	35
2 Herne Bay	13	9	1	3	+13	28
3 Erith & Belvedere	14	9	0	5	+4	27
4 Sevenoaks Town	14	7	3	4	+6	24
5 Beckenham Town	13	7	1	5	+9	22
6 Greenwich Borough	14	6	3	5	0	21
7 Hythe Town	11	5	4	2	+16	19
8 Tunbridge Wells	15	4	7	4	0	19
9 Erith Town	11	5	3	3	+7	18
10 Sporting Bengal	14	5	3	6	-4	16
11 Deal Town	12	4	4	4	-4	16
12 Norton Sports	12	4	1	7	-5	13
13 Holmesdale	14	4	1	9	-6	13
14 Fisher	16	3	3	10	-18	12
15 Corinthian	13	2	3	8	-15	9
16 Lordswood	11	0	3	8	-21	3

### KENT COUNTY LEAGUE DIVISION ONE EAST

1 Stansfeld O&B Club	16	11	3	2	+15	36
2 Hollands & Blair	15	9	4	2	+16	31
3 Sutton Athletic	14	8	3	3	+10	27
4 Phoenix Sports	12	8	2	2	+11	26
5 Rusthall	15	8	1	6	+7	25
6 Fleet Leisure	14	7	4	3	+5	25
7 Canterbury City	14	7	1	6	+6	22
8 Bly Spartans	14	7	1	6	+2	22
9 Snodland	15	6	4	5	+1	22
10 Bearsted	13	4	5	4	0	17
11 Tonbridge Invicta	15	4	4	7	-4	16
12 Cray Valley (PM)	14	4	1	9	-1	13
13 Lewisham Borough	16	4	1	11	-15	13
14 Coney Hall	14	4	0	10	-10	12
15 Orpington	16	3	3	10	-18	12
16 Milton & Fulston United	15	3	1	11	-27	10

**FIXTURES (Saturday):** Ryman Division One South: Croydon Athletic v Whitstable Town; Kent Senior Trophy Quarter-final: Herne Bay v Holmesdale; Kent County League Premier Division: Orpington v Canterbury City

# Whitstable's good form put on ice over Christmas

## FOOTBALL

WHITSTABLE Town were left cursing their luck more than most by the flurry of postponements over the festive period which have threatened to disrupt their improving form.

The Oystermen have played just once since winning at Godalming Town on December 12, with last Saturday's game with Ramsgate called off due to a frozen Belmont pitch. It came four days after their game with Sittingbourne was put back due to a water-logged surface.

The interruptions mean Whitstable remain on the cusp of the bottom two despite playing well in recent weeks, including a draw at in-form Ramsgate on Boxing Day.

Manager Mark Munday said: "In the context of the division the postponement was the norm but we've been on a good run and we wanted to carry on as much as possible. But it's that time of year and everyone is used to it."

Next up for Whitstable is a trip to promotion hopefuls Croydon Athletic on Saturday. The Rams were among the favourites for the title in the summer and thrashed Whitstable when the sides met in August, but have struggled at times since.

Munday said: "They were unplayable that day, we did alright and got beat 5-0. But their players are at this level for a reason and the inconsistencies are still there. We'll be going there on a decent run of form, hopefully stifle them going forward and surprise them at the other end. We have got results at the better sides this season, so we'll be confident of getting something."



Picture: PIR LAURENCE

**FRUSTRATION:** Whitstable manager Mark Munday

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